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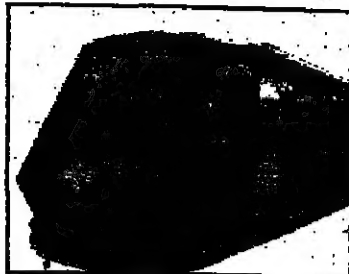
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16 The Magazine

Getting rail travel on track



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Born to be 'Wilde'



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United they fall

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Visiting Yad Vashem
Austrian Chancellor Viktor Klima (left) is guided by Yad Vashem director Avner Shalev through the Lodz Ghetto exhibit at the Holocaust memorial yesterday. Story, Page 2. (Reuters)

'Analyzer' hacker under house arrest

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN and news agencies

Ehud Tannenbaum of Hod Hasharon, the 18-year-old hacker known as "Analyzer" who has allegedly penetrated the Pentagon's computer system, among others, was placed under house arrest yesterday - without his computer - after questioning by police.

The hacker and two alleged teen accomplices were arrested on Wednesday. US Defense Department officials suspect them

of "the most organized and systematic [computer infiltration] attack the Pentagon has seen to date."

'Hackers romanticized as freedom fighters', Page 3

Police spokesman Elihu Ben-Onn said, "This guy didn't do it for criminal motives. He did it for his curiosity, or his ego, but not for money or anything like that."

The case has aroused great inter-

est in the United States, where Analyzer has a formidable reputation in computer hacking circles.

Tannenbaum's lawyer, Amnon Zichroni, said the youth, who was questioned by police for some 11 hours before being released to house arrest last night, is not a spy and hacked only for thrills.

"In the past we used to boast about the girls we had. Nowadays, kids boast of their ability to hack into computer systems," Zichroni told Reuters.

See ANALYZER, Page 22

Trooper says Paula Jones, not Clinton, initiated encounter

WASHINGTON - An Arkansas policeman who is a co-defendant in the sexual harassment lawsuit against US President Bill Clinton says the president's accuser initiated a

meeting with Clinton in a hotel suite after remarking that he was "good-looking" and had "sexy hair."

Trooper Danny Ferguson sharply contradicted Paula Jones

in describing how the events unfolded before he escorted her to Clinton's suite on May 8, 1991.

See JONES, Page 22

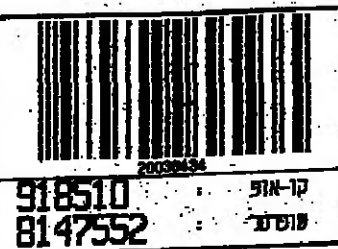
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NEWS

in brief

Prosecutor urges 20-year sentence for Papon

In a surprising move, the French state prosecutor yesterday urged a jury to sentence Maurice Papon to 20 years in prison — not life — for complicity in crimes against humanity during World War II. Most lawyers for the families of Jews rounded up under Papon's orders before they were deported to death camps had demanded a symbolic life term for the 67-year-old Papon, who was a high-ranking Vichy police administrator.

But prosecutor Henri Desclaux called for a 20-year sentence, saying the jury should "not make Maurice Papon a scapegoat" for other high-ranking officials of the collaborationist Vichy regime. AP

Swiss invite Israel, Palestinians to talks

Switzerland has invited Israeli and Palestinian experts to attend four-party talks on improving respect for human rights in the territories, the Foreign Ministry in Bern said yesterday.

Switzerland, as the repository of the Fourth Geneva Convention, issued the invitations to Israel, the PLO, and the International Committee of the Red Cross, ministry spokesman Livio Zanolari said.

"They have agreed in principle. Now one has to work out the details. When the details have been worked out, the conference will take place," he said, adding he hoped it would start as soon as next month. "This group will focus on improving respect for the international human rights law in the occupied territories." Reuters

Barak tells Labor to stop 'self-destructing'

Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak yesterday appealed to his party to "stop self-destructing." He spoke at a gathering of his supporters called to boost his standing in the face of mounting criticism of him in Labor, particularly highlighted in recent disagreements with his hand-picked secretary-general, MK Ra'anana Cohen.

Many of those who attended demanded the party change its stand on the direct election of the prime minister, but Barak said he favors continuing the present system. Sarah Honig

Nepal asks government not to close embassy

Nepal's non-resident ambassador to Israel conferred with Foreign Ministry Director-General Eytan Bentsur, in a bid yesterday to prevent the closure of the Israeli Embassy in Katmandu.

Gopi Nath Dawadi, who is based in Cairo, cited the cordial relations which have been maintained by the two countries since they were initiated 38 years ago.

He has also lobbied for the embassy to remain open in previous sessions with the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Uzi Landau, and with MKs Ori Orr and Nissim Zivili. Jay Bushinsky

PM reviews peace process for Klima

By JAY BUSHINSKY

Austrian Chancellor Viktor Klima paved the way to his country's assumption of the European Union's presidency yesterday by seeking "an overview" of the peace process from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Klima also discussed bilateral relations between the two countries, not only in the economic sphere in which the trade balance is two to one in Austria's favor, but also in security and intelligence, fields in which cooperation is especially close.

Netanyahu told Klima that Israel is anxious to achieve progress on such "immediate issues" as the prospective opening of a Palestinian airport in the Gaza Strip and the establishment of an industrial park near the Karni crossing point.

"We are ready and willing to work with the European Union in these efforts under the current presidency [Great Britain] and under the next presidency [Austria as of June 1]," Netanyahu said.

Klima disregarded the furor that erupted over visiting British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook's meeting and handshake with the Palestinian Authority's Salah Ta'amri near Jerusalem's Har Homa on Wednesday.

"Cook did his best," Klima said. "He presented the ideas of the EU and showed support for the peace process."

He said the main purpose of his visit is "to listen, get information, and prepare for my presidency of the EU."

Official sources noted that as a relatively new member of the EU — it was admitted in 1995 — Austria can be expected to tread carefully through the diplomatic minefields of the Middle East.

As virtual "outsiders" compared to veteran EU members which have played major roles in the region's modern history, such as Great Britain and France, the Austrians' diplomatic approach is less encumbered by past associa-



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu meets with Austrian Chancellor Viktor Klima yesterday. (Brim Hendler)

tions and experiences, the sources said.

They also referred to the Austria's awareness of its involvement in the Holocaust and of the decimation of its Jewish community after its annexation by Nazi Germany in 1938.

Klima confirmed his intention to discuss Austrian compensation to Jewish survivors of the Holocaust or former Jewish residents who fled the advent of Nazism.

"We will talk about this tonight

at our private meeting," Klima said. "I am sure the prime minister is informed of the efforts made by the Austrian government and people and of the very fair analysis of the problem of art which was looted from Jewish owners."

"We are in close cooperation with Jewish organizations. We know about the responsibility of Austria for the tragedy and are trying to find a fair way with our Jewish friends."

Klima also met with Jewish Agency Chairman Avraham Burg,

and they discussed the restitution of Jewish property.

He also announced the establishment of a center for Austrian studies at the Hebrew University as a gift to the state on its 50th anniversary.

Klima is scheduled to visit Gaza today and confer with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

He described the economic assistance being given by the EU to the PA as "beneficial to Israel" because it can strengthen stabi-

ty and security by improving the Palestinians' living conditions."

Summing up Austria's view of regional peacemaking, Klima said: "Austria recognizes Israel's right to live within safe borders and the Palestinians' right to self-determination. The formula for peace is security for the Israelis and justice for the Palestinians. We want to help the Palestinians establish viable economic structures because poverty and unemployment breed terrorism and violence."

Report: Hizbullah pulling punches to keep Israel in Lebanon

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON — Hizbullah is pulling its punches in attacks on Israeli targets for fear of hastening a unilateral Israeli withdrawal from south Lebanon, the London-based newsletter *Foreign Report* said yesterday.

The newsletter quotes UN sources as saying the number of Hizbullah attacks in February was the highest since 1986, but Israeli death toll was only four — one soldier killed in a gunfight, three killed by a mortar shell — while 12 Hizbullah fighters were killed during the same period.

It says Hizbullah is equipped with new 81-mm. and 120-mm. mortars, 106-mm. recoilless rifles,

as well as AT-3 and AT-4 anti-tank missiles.

The UN sources are further quoted as saying Hizbullah has all Israeli outposts in south Lebanon in its sights and in some places, mortar-firing stakes are permanently in place so arriving mortar crews do not have to recalibrate the weapons.

But according to *Foreign Report*, "Hizbullah's masters in Beirut have issued orders to go easy because a

sudden increase in deaths and injuries might speed up a unilateral Israeli withdrawal which would not be in Hizbullah's interest — yet."

It says that "after an Israeli withdrawal, Hizbullah, having no enemy, would have to lay down its arms, not only in the south but also in Beirut and in the Bekaa Valley. Hizbullah would then have to become a Lebanese civilian political party with no military strength. It is not ready for this phase. So there will be a pause."

There will be no pause in the air war, however, and Hizbullah is said to be determined to counter Israeli assault helicopters, "which are slowly changing the battlefield balance."

The newsletter quotes its sources as saying that in recent days,

Hizbullah fighters have been training with mobile 23-mm. anti-aircraft batteries and have recently received some Eastern European or Russian-made 57-mm. radar-controlled anti-aircraft pieces.

"The Israeli air force knows it, and last week fought a seven-hour battle with them in an effort to spot the batteries and assess their firepower," reports the newsletter.

"Hizbullah is monitoring changes expected in the Israeli high command. The northern front commander, Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine, with his special forces background, has managed to reduce the army in south Lebanon to three successful anti-guerrilla units, while the rest of the troops spend their time confined to hardened bunkers."

Of Intelligence Branch Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon replaces Levine, who has been appointed deputy head of the Mossad, the newsletter adds, "the Israeli army in South Lebanon could revert to waiting for the day a peace deal is made with Syria and its neo-colony, Lebanon."

'Perez de Cuellar' letter backs Israel's spin on 425

By DAVID RUDGE

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai's south Lebanon initiative, which proposes an IDF withdrawal and arrangements that would guarantee the security of Israel's northern border and the safety of South Lebanese Army soldiers and their families, is not just Israel's interpretation of the UN Security Council Resolution 425.

In 1984, then secretary-general Javier Perez de Cuellar wrote in a letter to the president of the Security Council that security arrangements would have to be reached in order for an Israeli pull-out to go ahead.

Resolution 425 calls for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from south Lebanon, for the Lebanese government to reassert effective authority over the region, and for the restoration of international peace and security.

Perez de Cuellar's letter said he had gained the impression that there was a general agreement on the objective of an Israeli withdrawal and on the necessity for "working out arrangements in southern Lebanon which would ensure peace and security in the region and the restoration of Lebanese authority and sovereignty in the wake of the Israeli withdrawal."

"I also noted that an expanded mandate for UNIFIL and the

widening of its area of operations would be key elements in such future arrangements."

"Following consultations in the last few weeks with the governments of Lebanon and Israel, I am now convocating a conference of military representatives of Lebanon and Israel to discuss military aspects relating to the withdrawal of Israeli forces and security arrangements in southern Lebanon," he wrote.

Security sources here maintain that this letter, in conjunction with the terms of the resolution itself, concur with Israel's interpretation.

"This letter proves unequivocally that there is a model and precedent for military talks between Israel and Lebanon, and security arrangements, over the implementation of 425," a senior security source said.

"This letter puts an end to the question of interpretation. It would be interesting to hear what the Lebanese and the Syrians have to say about the document and the model it contains."

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Tickets ending in 31 and 92. Tickets ending in 7 and 4 won NIS 10.

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PA urges stronger US role, backs EU initiative

By MARGOT DUKWITZ and MOHAMMED NAJIB

A statement issued by the Palestinian Authority cabinet, meeting in Gaza last night, called for an Arab summit and demanded that the US take a more active role in pushing the peace process forward.

The statement reiterated similar sentiments made by PA Chairman Yasser Arafat's aide, Nabil Abu Rudeineh recently.

During the session, cabinet members discussed the European Union's initiative and Israel's refusal to accept it. Rudeineh warned the Israeli government that its refusal to implement the European initiative was a dangerous one.

Prior to the cabinet meeting, Arafat met with the PLO Executive Committee, discussed the political developments and invited its members to take part in the cabinet meeting.

The Tarkumiya junction incident, the recent IDF "assaults" against Palestinian journalists and the PA budget for 1998 were high on the agenda at the Palestinian Legislative Council session in Ramallah earlier in the day.

The head of the PLC's political committee Dr. Zeiad Abu Amer, charged that the "massacre" at Tarkumiya would not be the last.

"The massacre and assaults on Palestinian journalists will not be the last, and this marks a danger-

ous situation," he warned, adding "during the intifada there was immunity for all journalists, including Palestinian journalists."

In addition, members discussed plans for the anniversary of Land Day on March 31. Activities include demonstrations and marches to protest land confiscation, slated to take place in Jerusalem, Gaza and throughout the West Bank.

Palestinian officials continued to praise British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook's visit and charged that the US should learn from the EU initiative.

PLC Speaker Ahmed Qreia said Cook's visit to Har Homa was aimed at showing the world that settlement construction is not only being aggressively pursued but also is illegal and must be halted.

"His meeting with PLC member Salah Da'arna was a brave and responsible act and proved that Jerusalem is Palestinian occupied land," said Qreia.

Other members said they were still waiting for a US initiative to rescue the peace process but declared that the EU totally supported the Palestinian position.

"We hope a US initiative will come soon, within a few days," Qreia said.

PA negotiator Saeb Erekat said that any US proposal must include the three further withdrawals from the West Bank as stipulated in the existing Israel-Palestinian accords.



Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak (left) whispers to Kibbutz Artzi secretary-general Avshalom Vilan during yesterday's conference at Givat Haviva.

Barak: Guerrilla war with Palestinians possible

By SARAH HONIG

"Israel could find itself fighting a guerrilla war, like the one in Bosnia, if it continues to miss the chance for peace," Labor Party chairman Ehud Barak warned yesterday.

He was addressing the opening session of the Kibbutz Artzi convention at Givat Haviva.

"An impasse in the peace process could well lead to a super-

fluous war," Barak said. "Israel is strong enough to bring an end to wars in the Middle East and do so from a position of power, without jeopardizing its essential security interests."

The Netanyahu government, according to Barak, is "amateurish, and this leads the Arab world to conclude that our resolve is cracking under pressure. The way this government handled the recent Gulf crisis, and its current

talk of unilaterally pulling out of Lebanon, are cases in point."

The Likud responded with an official statement contending that "Barak is cut off from reality. He uses any subject in the news to lash out against the government in order to rescue himself from irrelevance."

"The Likud challenges Barak to explain to the public precisely which of Israel's vital security interests - which this government

refuses to risk - he and the Left find expendable."

Barak was not warmly received by the delegates. His entry triggered a round of cat-calls and heckling, which could not be easily silenced.

Hundreds of kibbutz members yelled: "What about the meat law?"

Barak was blamed for the fact that Labor MKs made its passage possible.

W. Bank officers told to avoid politics

By ABIEH O'SULLIVAN

Officers in the civil administration responsible for assessing sentiments among Palestinians have been instructed to steer clear of political or military interpretations and focus strictly on the social and economic situation.

These instructions were reissued recently by Maj.-Gen. Ya'acov Orr, coordinator of activities in the territories. His spokesman, Shlomo Dror, said they had nothing to do with the annual assessment recently presented by the unit's adviser on Palestinian affairs.

Israel Radio reported that Col. Efraim Lavi had prepared an assessment two weeks ago, and it reportedly included possible scenarios for conflict with the Palestinians.

Orr reportedly told Lavi he did not want to see such assessments and ordered him to refrain from giving political assessments.

"It's neither your field nor your expertise," Israel Radio quoted Orr as saying. "There are other bodies whose job it is to provide these assessments."

Dror neither confirmed nor denied the Orr's comments, but said that Orr issued general instructions reminding his subordinates to focus strictly on the socio-economic aspects of the Palestinians.

"He wants to see that the advisers on Palestinians concentrate on social and economic issues and not deal with security or political assessments," Dror said. "There are other bodies that deal with this."

Assessments from the coordinator's office have often been used by policy makers. Orr's predecessor Oren Shahor said it is difficult to separate politics from socio-economic matters in the territories. He said the problem is not political assessments as long as they remained within the office.

"The problem is when sensitive information is leaked and various political elements manipulate it," Shahor said.

But Dror dismissed this saying that what Orr is seeking is not to duplicate work being done by other bodies, like the Mossad, General Security Service, or Foreign Ministry.

"We have a uniqueness which comes from our dealing with day-to-day issues. You will not get information on unemployment or the economic situation or attitudes on the environment from the Mossad or the GSS. That's what we can provide," Dror said.

Speaking on Israel Radio, Shahor said the ban on giving security assessments is harmful.

"In general, the more information you have and the more varied the assessments, the better your intelligence is," Shahor said.

He said the position of the adviser on Palestinian affairs held a key post in the coordinator's office and has good intelligence and assessment.

'Hackers romanticized as freedom fighters'

By JUDY SIEGEL

The media have romanticized teenage hackers who break into major computer systems, making them appear as "geniuses fighting for freedom of information," said UM, a 17-year-old Jerusalem computer security advocate who works full-time in the field after graduating early from high school.

"In fact, most of these are kids who are quite ignorant about computers, but they use programs written by others," he said. "They've joined an 'underground culture' of hackers to improve their self-image and make themselves feel powerful."

UM, who in his "foolish youth" a few years ago accepted a free Internet account at Bar-Ilan University offered him by a hack-

er friend and who himself managed to hack into the Hebrew University's computer for a similar account, said yesterday that Ehud Lamm, 18, of Hod Hasharon, known as "Analyzer," who is wanted by the FBI for breaking into the Pentagon's computer system, should be "severely punished. My advice to Analyzer, who is the friend of a friend, is to grow up."

According to UM, there may be hundreds of such adventuresome, trouble-making adolescents around the country, but there are only a handful who write hacker programs and know a lot about programming languages and computer security.

UM once wrote a couple of hacking programs, marked with his name, that he unfortunately left on an unprotected machine;

these were later misused by some teenagers to break into computer systems, for which UM said he erroneously got blamed.

To write hacking programs, said UM (who taught himself a complicated computer language), one must know the "assembly language" and programming language of the computer, as well as the operating system being used.

UM is appalled by the lack of security in a number of Israeli banks' on-line services and adds that the thought of all the government ministries going on-line to provide interactive service to the public "gives me nightmares. I once got into a site in Texas that listed personal information about all driver's license holders in the state. I'm scared of the day when people will be able to get that information about me."

Today, discovering a legitimate user's password is rarely the way hackers penetrate computer systems; instead, they used canned programs passed from one to another to do it, he said.

UM charged that many computer systems expose themselves to hackers because of carelessness and the desire to save money. "But economy is the enemy of computer security, and many companies and organizations neglect protecting their information because they say it doesn't produce a profit. One must educate computer programmers so they don't make silly errors. They must pay attention."

The Knesset Science and Technology Committee will discuss on Tuesday how to protect computer systems from illegal entry.

Meridor, Magen deny making up with PM

By SARAH HONIG

Likud MK Dan Meridor and Geshet MK David Magen, leading members of the internal opposition to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, denied yesterday they have made up with the premier.

Meridor hotly denied that he had considered an offer to rejoin the cabinet as foreign minister. Magen denied that he had made up his mind to leave Geshet and return to the Likud.

The Meridor rumor is said to have originated from sources close to President Ezer Weizman. They claimed that Weizman had recently suggested to Meridor that he assume the portfolio relinquished by Geshet's David Levy. At least one source claims that Weizman made

the offer at Netanyahu's behest. Meridor said that none of the reasons which propelled him to quit as finance minister has changed.

Netanyahu also denied that he had offered Meridor the Foreign Affairs portfolio.

Magen is making no bones about being miffed with Geshet for making a deal to field a joint list with Meretz in the upcoming Knesset elections. He has taken affront at not being consulted. Magen is seen as being gradually pushed further and further away from Geshet's center of power.

Magen angrily left the Likud before the 1996 elections. He then was the first Geshet member to form an internal opposition to Netanyahu, when he resigned as deputy finance minister.

Researcher: Iraqis prefer 'The Jerusalem Post' web site

By ABIEH O'SULLIVAN

An Israeli scientist has developed an Internet monitoring program which tracks a user's actions on the net. Using the program, the scientist said Iraqi government sites intensely monitored events here during the recent Gulf crisis, downloading *The Jerusalem Post* daily.

According to Dr. Joseph Hershtko, his program, called Scout, can be set to monitor users according to topics or geographic areas.

"It examines who is monitoring your site and for how long," said Hershtko, a lecturer and scientist at the Center for Technological Education in Holon.

Hershtko said there are a dozen Iraqi sites operating in the US, but most of the 200 sites linked with Iraq were based in Lebanon, which he said has turned into the Internet capital of the Arab world.

He said the Iraqi Internet sites were a base for Iraqi disinformation, but their operators also seek information from various sites on

the Internet.

Using his Scout program, Hershtko said he was able to draw up a path of their actions. One site is IraqNet, based in Lebanon, which he claimed is a front for Saddam Hussein's military apparatus.

"They are interested in Israeli public opinion," Hershtko said.

"During the Gulf crisis they were downloading *The Jerusalem Post* and *Globes* daily," Hershtko said, adding that they did not download *Ha'aretz*, even though it appeared in English on the Internet.

He said from his monitoring it appeared they were putting together profiles of top economic figures in the country.

While it is generally believed that enemy nations spy on each other using the Internet, this is the first proof that the Iraqi government is peering at Israel on the Internet.

BARAK & GAZIT

Birds of a Feather?

Ruth Matar interviews

Michael Kleiner - MK

Elyakim Ha'etzi - Former MK

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Arutz 7 - English program, 97.3 FM radio (97.2 FM in Jerusalem)

This program was postponed because of stormy weather at sea, which prevented Arutz 7 from broadcasting last Wednesday evening.

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Grand Opening of the Beit Elazrazi Children's Home, Netanya with a Celebration Lunch.

Asher Catlingold will guide our journey to Jerusalem and tell of events surrounding the Siege in 1948.

The day ends with a Gala Dinner at the Knesset.

Guest Speaker: Yaakov Ne'eman, Minister of Finance.

Greetings from Pinna Herzog, President, World Emunah.

Knesset Host: Shaul Yehalom, Minister of Transport.

Guests of Honour: Mr. and Mrs. Leo Grahame.

Dinner Hosts: Mr. and Mrs. Sam Marks.

Wednesday, April 22:

The programme continues with a boat trip along the shores of ancient Caesarea, a visit to the Hannah Senesh Museum, and the excavations at Tsippori.

We will place the corner stone of the Dots and Bertie Black Therapy Centre and the Balint Freezer Centre at the Sarah Herzog Children's Home, Afula.

Thursday, April 23:

Yom Hashoah will be remembered with a special programme prior to the dedication of the Irene and Donald Weinberg Media and Communications Department at the Necha Sara Wolfson Vocational High School, Be'er Brak.

For further information and bookings, contact Renee Becker World Emunah

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Palestinians to get more work permits

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

The Ministry of Defense yesterday lowered the minimum age of married Palestinian men eligible for work permits from 25 to 23, a move expected to increase the number of laborers from the territories by some 10,000 from the current 50,000.

Entry permits given to Palestinian merchants have also been increased by 1,500, bringing their number to 13,500.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai issued the instructions after the security services approved recommendations for the move by Coordinator of Activities in the Territories Maj. Gen. Ya'acov Orr.

"We assume that lowering the age limit will increase the number of workers by thousands," said Shlomo Dror, spokesman for the coordinator's office. He said Palestinian estimates put the increase at about 10,000.

"This move is in accordance with our policy to increase the

number of Palestinian workers in Israel," Dror said.

He said that 17 percent of employed Palestinians from the Gaza Strip work in Israel, but they account for over 40 percent of earned income in Gaza. The figure is about the same regarding the West Bank, he said.

Dror said that the 13,500 merchants now being let into Israel is the largest number ever.

"They come to do business with Israelis and foreigners. This is very important, because every businessman who operates here brings work for others back in the Gaza Strip and West Bank," Dror said.

Orr met yesterday with Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai to discuss increasing the number of work permits given to Palestinians, in order to replace foreign workers here. So far, some 3,000 Palestinian workers have been given permits to remain overnight in the country and Orr wants to raise this number to 5,000, Dror said.



Party for Manor

Friends and colleagues of songwriter Ehud Manor (right) throw him a surprise party yesterday at Tel Aviv's Suzanne Delfal Center in honor of his receiving the Israel Prize. From left: Manor's wife, Ora Fuchs, Meretz Party leader Yossi Sarid, and songwriter Nurit Hirsch.

Palestinian journalists told to boycott media conference

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Palestinian journalists invited to take part in a media conference sponsored by Tel Aviv's International Center for Peace in the Middle East were asked by the Arab Journalists Association to boycott the conference and warned that

action would be taken against them if they attend.

Some 35 Palestinian journalists had been invited to attend the media conference, scheduled to take place in Athens next month.

Arab Journalists Association head Naeim Tubassi published a leaflet on Wednesday in which he called on the journalists not to attend the con-

ference, declaring it would be perceived as "fraternizing with the enemy."

Ophir Bronstein, chairman of the center, said on Israel Radio yesterday that he regretted Tubassi's stand.

"We personally invited Israeli and Palestinian journalists to the conference and not through their syndicates," he said.

Palestinian sources said Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat was behind the move.

Meanwhile, Maher Alami, one of the journalists invited to attend the conference, said "this conference should not be viewed as fraternizing; it offers us the opportunity to discuss Palestinian concerns and suffering."

Chopper makes emergency landing

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

An oil leak developed on a Cobra attack helicopter being flown from the North for inspection yesterday and forced it to land, the IDF said. The chopper landed safely and no one was injured.

The IAF's fleet of Cobra helicopters has been grounded since one crashed Sunday off the coast, but the fleet in the North had been given special permission to fly back to their base so they could be checked.

En route, one of the pilots noticed an alert light and was instructed to land. It turned out it had suffered an oil leak, the IDF said.

Meanwhile, the air force investigation into Sunday's crash, which killed two airman, was picking up pace after the arrival of experts from Bell Helicopters, which manufactures the Cobras. An interim report, however, is not due until late next week.

The entire fleet of Cobra helicopters remains grounded until further notice.

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TAU scientists isolate deafness gene

By JUDY GIEGL

A gene that causes gradual congenital deafness has been identified by Tel Aviv University researchers, who studied an extended Israeli Jewish family of Libyan origin carrying the defect. The discovery, reached in only a year using the strategy of comparing mouse genes to those in humans, is to be published in today's issue of the prestigious journal *Science*.

The dominant autosomal gene DFNA15, which causes victims to begin losing their hearing around the age of 18 and become partially or totally deaf by 40, was isolated by a team led by Dr. Karen Avraham of the human genetics faculty of TAU's Sackler School of Medicine. Having just one parent with the defective gene is enough to cause the disease.

The team, which worked with Dr. Moshe

Frydman of Sheba Hospital and Dr. Anat Bloomfield of Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem, managed to identify and isolate the gene in only a year, even though such work usually takes several years.

The task is so complicated, because the chromosomal area involved can contain hundreds of genes, each of which has to be examined in a time-consuming process. Isolating genes related to deafness is made more difficult because deaf people tend to marry others with the same disability, and deafness can be caused either by genetic disorders or injury.

Master's degree student Oz Vahba scanned the subject family for genetic markers to find the cause of their numerous cases of congenital deafness. He was able to trace the defect back to a member of the family who was born in Libya in 1843. His

descendants moved to North Africa and the Middle East – especially Tunis and Egypt – and finally settled in Israel, although a number of members live today in the US and Belgium.

Of the 80 known family members, half inherited the defective gene. In 12 of them, advanced neuro-sensory hearing loss was discovered in audiological tests; men and women were equally affected. The 12, plus 11 others over the age of 40 who have normal hearing, served as the basis for the TAU research.

The family's defective gene was found close to an additional gene discovered a few months ago by researchers at the University of Washington in Seattle to cause deafness in a Costa Rican family.

In order to shorten the identification process, Avraham used a new technique for identifying human genes based on research

on mice. This strategy led to the speedy discovery of the mutation, whose existence was proven in Blumenfeld's lab by comparing the family's genes with those in a control group of people with normal hearing.

It was learned that of the relevant gene pair, one was defective and the other normal. Until age 18, the normal gene is enough to allow normal hearing – but then the defective gene apparently takes over and prevents a protein coded by the normal gene to function normally. The victim's hearing deteriorates, so that by 40, he or she needs a hearing aid.

Avraham noted that in mice, when both genes in the pair are defective, the rodent is deaf from birth. "It may be that deafness from birth also exists in people who carry two defective copies of the gene," she said. The researchers are investigating this possibility.

IBA boss slams award of Jubilee gala to Channel 2

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Claiming there was a "political slant" to the decision, Broadcasting Authority Chairman Ya'acov Kirschenbaum yesterday blasted the Jubilee Celebrations committee for awarding exclusive broadcasting rights for a gala Independence Day program to rival Channel 2.

Kirschenbaum called on the leading Israeli artists involved to boycott the *Pa'amanei Hayovel* program. Channel 1 journalists reportedly are threatening to petition the High Court of Justice over the matter.

However, Committee for Jubilee Celebrations director Doron Shmueli rejected Kirschenbaum's criticism, saying in a statement that "a complex combination of professional considerations led us to decide to allow both stations to carry the state ceremony, but to let Keshet carry the artistic section of the event." He refused to elaborate.

Shmueli said he had informed Israel Television chief Yair Stern and Keshet managing director Shmuel Shiner of the decision. He added that Channel 1 had not yet responded regarding carrying the state ceremony.

A spokesman for Stern said the Channel 1 chief was "shocked and surprised" by the decision, which he called totally unjustified.

Stern said Channel 1 had been told it would have to fulfill a series of requests if it wanted to carry the program, including running the jubilee celebration theme song, "Yachad Bege'ava" five times a day, running some 160 public service ads about the celebrations at a reduced rate, carrying news items about the jubilee celebrations, and using artists who will appear in the program in Channel 1 variety shows.

Stern, the spokesman said, made it clear that Channel 1 "is not the Jewish National Fund," adding that decisions on news coverage are made in a professional manner, and he could only suggest names of artists to appear in variety shows, not demand this.

Stern and Kirschenbaum both said it was ridiculous for a state ceremony not to be shown in its entirety on state television. The spokesman said Stern and Channel 1 are now ready to put on a "stunning" variety show that would run opposite the one for which they were turned down.



Chief rabbi meets EU envoys

British Ambassador David Manning (right) addresses a conference yesterday in Jerusalem at which Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Dor (left) and Yisrael Lau met with the ambassadors of the 22 members of the European Union. Lau said the meeting was important, because "the ambassadors of the EU want to be involved in various issues, and so they should hear the Jewish side of things. It's also important for European Jews, and for our neighbors, who will hear our stand through them." Among the subjects discussed were the issues of "who is a Jew" and the conversion bill. (Brian Handler)

Kinneret rises four centimeters

By DAVID RUDGE

The weather ignored the change to "summer time" last night, with rain sweeping the country yesterday, causing flooding in several places.

There was no snow in Jerusalem, but snow did fall on the Golan Heights and Mt. Hermon, where over two meters had accumulated on the peak by yesterday afternoon.

The wintry weather is expected to die out during the course of today and be replaced with dry but cloudy conditions tomorrow. Forecasters said it would remain colder than usual for this time of year.

The wet spell was welcomed by those concerned with the country's water resources.

Staff at the Lake Kinneret Authority reported that the level of water had risen by a further four centimeters, its second big increase in the space of 48 hours.

They said the flow of water into the lake from the Jordan River and tributaries was stronger than at any time during the winter and the level was expected to rise even higher.

The level of water in the Kinneret is now 1.75 m. above the mark below which it is not allowed to drop, but still 2.35 m. from the maximum.

Weather experts, however, said there was a good prospect of more rain in the coming weeks.

Management of the Mt. Hermon ski site said it would be open over the weekend and that skiing conditions are expected to be excellent.

Poraz fighting for more daylight saving time

By LIAT COLLINS

Summer time certainly isn't easy, no matter what the song says. Although daylight saving time started last night, the argument on when it should end continues.

MK Avraham Poraz (Shinui) yesterday accused Interior Minister Eli Shais (Shas) of deliberately starting daylight saving time early in order to stop it at the beginning of September, to ease the problem of Sephardi worshippers who would need to get up extra early for *shlosh* prayers. By law, daylight saving time must last a minimum of 150 days.

"The minister's behavior is absurd," said Poraz yesterday. "To meet the requirements of the law and also the demands of the prayer-goers, the minister has brought in summer time early – when it is still

winter – and will stop it in the middle of summer, September 5.

"If the interior minister were to act logically and be considerate of the public, he would start the operation of daylight saving time only on April 15 and would let it continue until the end of October."

Poraz noted that the Knesset Interior Committee this week voted by a large majority to recommend that the minister extend daylight saving time by two weeks, to September 20 instead.

An Interior Ministry spokeswoman yesterday said that the September 5 date still stands.

Poraz is trying to promote legislation that would set fixed dates for daylight saving time. He wants the fixed period to coincide with daylight saving time in Europe, from the end of March to the end of October.

Court rejects Electric Corp. petition for reinstating price rise

By BAT SHEVA TSUR

An attempt by the Israel Electric Corporation to reinstate higher electricity prices was turned down yesterday by the High Court of Justice.

Court President Aharon Barak and Justices Dalia Dorner and Dorit Beinisch said they saw no reason to intervene in a decision

by the Public Services Authority to lower electricity prices by 4%.

The dispute broke out after the authority decided to cut electricity prices when fuel prices on the world market dropped. IEC appealed the decision to the Jerusalem District Court, saying that the consideration was incorrect, that the corporation would lose money and that the quality of

service would eventually go down. The district court referred the matter to the High Court.

"IEC will have to learn that this is a new era in which there is someone who supervises electricity prices and its activities," authority head Prof. Haim Eliat said later.

statements that deal with Har-Shefi.

Prosecutor calls Har-Shefi's testimony 'sanctimonious'

By GALT LIPKIS BECK

Margalit Har-Shefi's testimony was theatrical and sanctimonious, prosecutor Penina Guy said yesterday in her summation in Tel Aviv Magistrates Court.

Har-Shefi, a friend of Yigal Amir, has been charged with having advance knowledge of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin and of helping Amir obtain the means to carry out the murder. Har-Shefi has pleaded not guilty.

The prosecution contends that there is no doubt that on several occasions Har-Shefi heard Amir apply the *din rodef* concept to Rabin and also heard him talk about plans to kill him. The prosecution also said there is no question that she did nothing to prevent the murder.

In her 100-page summation, Guy lists 12 main points to support her arguments, mainly based on Har-Shefi's testimony in court, statements to police and General Security Service agents shortly after her arrest in November 1995.

The arguments are also based on statements to police by Hagai Amir, brother of Yigal, Hagai, who is serving a 12-year sentence in connection with the events surrounding the assassination, was declared a hostile witness after he contradicted parts of his police

statements that deal with Har-Shefi.

According to the prosecution, Yigal Amir shared his ideas and secrets with Har-Shefi.

"The suspect was his woman of secrets. She knew of significant details about the prime minister's assassination," said Guy.

Guy said she does not accept the defense argument that Har-Shefi thought Yigal Amir was not serious.

Describing Har-Shefi's behavior in court as theatrical and sanctimonious, she said Har-Shefi termed Amir a "genius" and an "original thinker," when it suited her and when it didn't, "delusional" and a "liar."

Guy emphasized that the defense did not prove that people other than Yigal Amir talked of the *din rodef* concept. Likewise, the defense failed to prove that Har-Shefi was not the only person who heard the concept and did nothing about it.

"The defense did not summon even one witness who could say I heard the *din rodef* concept in Bar-Ilan University or anywhere else," said Guy.

She said she does not sympathize with Har-Shefi's apology in court for having called Yitzhak Rabin a traitor and having prayed for his death.

The Rembrandt Research Project and the Collector

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UN inspector sees a 'new spirit' of cooperation from Iraq

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — UN chief weapons inspector Richard Butler, who travels to Iraq tomorrow, said yesterday he sees a "new spirit" of cooperation from that nation.

"Last week we went to some places that Iraq decided to declare sensitive. We had sent a very rough team in to have a look at those places. In the past we'd been blocked. We met with a degree of cooperation that I think justifies figuring that maybe there is now a new spirit out there," Butler said in an interview on ABC's *Good Morning America*.

With a week of technical meetings beginning yesterday in

Vienna to learn more on Iraq's biological weapons capacity, Butler conceded the "new spirit" currently does not extend to knowing everything the UN wants to know.

"They've never told us the truth about their biology program. I'm hoping the new spirit might extend to this meeting in Vienna and they may give us some more facts this week," Butler said.

Butler will remain in Iraq through Wednesday trying to pave the way for upcoming UN inspections of previously unexamined Iraqi presidential sites.

"Bear in mind these are places that only a few months ago that

[Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister] Mr. Tariq Aziz said 'Absolutely not. You will never get there,' Butler said.

"So this new access that we'll get in a week or so hopefully will make a difference," he said. "We have to be able to say that there's nothing bad or prohibited there."

Butler will hold talks with Aziz during his March 22-26 trip to Baghdad, his first visit since a crisis over UN weapons inspections was defused last month, a UN official said.

A United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) spokeswoman said Butler will fly there aboard the same plane as

Jayantha Dhanapala, a Sri Lankan diplomat and disarmament expert charged with leading the inspection of eight disputed presidential sites.

Dhanapala visited Baghdad last week to pave the way for the new group's inspection of the eight sites. He is not expected to be in Baghdad for most of the inspections, but will report on them to Butler.

Dhanapala yesterday issued a list of 20 senior diplomats due to travel to Iraq to accompany UNSCOM weapons inspectors on visits to eight presidential sites.

"I was assured of full coopera-

tion to the group — UNSCOM, IAEA experts, and the diplomats — on the visits to the eight presidential sites," Dhanapala said. "We hope to complete the initial visits to presidential sites within a period of two weeks, after which we will submit a report," he added, saying the visits would be unannounced.

The list of 20 senior diplomats, which Dhanapala said had been drawn up by the UN in New York, included a representative from each of the five permanent members of the Security Council (Britain, China, France, Russia, and the US). He said there is also a list of 36 diplomats in reserve.



Auction employee George Okan removes a bust of former US president John F. Kennedy after it sold for \$18,000 on Wednesday in New York. The bronze bust is one of three by sculptor Felix deWeldon.

JFK memorabilia auctioned after seller reaches deal with Kennedys

By KATHERINE ROTH

NEW YORK (AP) — Aside from the \$5.9 million sale of President Kennedy's yacht, the smaller items — such as notes he scribbled on legal paper — attracted the most interest as a two-day auction of JFK memorabilia opened.

One surprise Wednesday was a 1961 speech package that included a photocopy of Kennedy's handwritten draft of his inaugural address — best known for the line, "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country." It sold for \$40,250.

Along with the draft, the

speech package, which was valued at \$4,000-\$6,000 in presale estimates, included a single sheet of yellow legal paper on which Kennedy scribbled this line from the address: "An inaugural is a beginning and an end."

Bidders also got some bargains, as many Kennedy-linked trinkets sold far below their presale estimates. Others were removed from the sale when bids failed to reach a minimum price.

"I got some good deals," said Frank Harvey of Houston, who paid \$1,100 for two telegrams sent by Kennedy, \$1,600 for photos of Kennedy when he was a senator, and \$2,500 for a signed lithograph of Kennedy by Norman Rockwell.

The Guernsey's auction got under way after the Maryland collector who consigned most of the items reached a last-minute agreement to return "intensely personal" items to the slain president's children, Caroline Kennedy and John F. Kennedy Jr.

Robert L. White agreed to turn over two of Kennedy's handwritten journals and a clock the president kept in the Oval Office.

Vajpayee sworn in as Indian PM

NEW DELHI — For the second time in less than two years, nationalist leader Atal Bihari Vajpayee took the prime minister's oath yesterday, hoping his disparate coalition will provide India the stability that has long eluded it.

"I have a pledge to redeem, I have a promise to fulfill. I am grateful to the people of India who have given me an opportunity to serve," Vajpayee, of the Bharatiya Janata Party, told reporters shortly after being sworn in before 2,000 guests gathered in the courtyard of the presidential mansion.

In the crowd at the mansion was Sonia Gandhi, chairwoman of the centrist Congress party, the BJP's main rival.

Vajpayee led a government in May 1996 that was toppled in a parliamentary vote of confidence after only 13 days. This time, he is counting on support from 19 allies ranging from staunch socialists to ardent supporters of free-market reforms.



New Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Accidents in waiting

Be careful what you ask for, as the ancient Greeks said. You might just get it. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu trooped off to Europe to ask the European Union to become more actively involved in the Middle East. He got Robin Cook. There's no such thing as a free canceled dinner.

There is something peculiar about the Middle East, where today's crisis rolls in with a fanfare and yesterday's crisis already is forgotten. Foreign visitors also roll in — more like ciphers than people — and roll out again, becoming vaguely remembered names. Was that Baker or Christopher, or was it Waldergrave or Cook or Christopher Robin?

We are told that a visit by someone like Throbbin' Robin (as the British tabloids call him) is meticulously planned down to the last detail of policy and protocol. Whatever one thinks of British or French policies, for example, states like these have been in the diplomatic game for a very long time indeed. Even when their governments are new, their foreign offices are the world's finest, their backroom mandarins the most brilliant, their envoys the most suave.

speech to the 50th anniversary gathering of the Anglo-Arab Association, a clear exposition of British Middle East policy. And Cook revealed the following: "Mr. Blair and President Clinton have agreed that Europe and the United States should continue to work together for peace. I recently met US Secretary of State

Albright in London, and talk frequently on the telephone with her to ensure our efforts are complementary. My European colleagues and I discussed our approach at our meeting in Edinburgh a few days later. This intense round of activity forms the backdrop for my 15-18 March tour of the region to take this approach forward."

Were they asleep in Jerusalem? Could any response to Bibi's EU track be clearer? The message was that the next US policy initiative will be delivered by Madeleine Albright — but Mr. Cook would deliver the preview. Israel's foreign policy is becoming dangerously anaemic — the question really is does the government even know how to conduct foreign policy any more?

Wrong answer

How then does a EU foreign minister from London end up with two canceled official dinners and a shouting match with a host government? How does a French president end up screaming at the host's security staff to back off and stop harassing him? It's their fault, of course, and now Israel is again throbbin' with indignant self-righteousness and Israelis are scrawling "antisemitism" on the wall of the British consulate.

Just the time, as Dr. Jacob Bronowski used to like quoting from C. S. Lewis, "when I beseech you to think it possible you may be mistaken." Of course nothing is as simplistic as it seems, or as devious as conspiracy theories make it. Accidents do happen, especially to accident-prone fellows like Bibi and Throbbin'.

If the Netanyahu government had not castrated Israel's once fine and professional Foreign Ministry in favor of mismanaging foreign affairs from the Prime Minister's Office, we would see fewer screw-ups like this.

It seems the wandering prime minister walked into a bear trap with his ill-conceived European initiative, and Cook sprung it. If the aim was to reduce American influence by cooing to the Europeans, it failed. The Europeans simply went to Washington and said, "Bibi's trying to side-step you."

ME and EU

Official speeches and statements may be very boring to study — but even the greenest journalist knows, they contain a wealth of good stuff between the lines.

Only a week before he came to Israel, Cook gave a very meaty and comprehensive

Wrong capital

How many international rows can one small place keep running — especially with Anglo-Saxons, of all people. There have been spats with Canada over passports, with Australia over a bridge tragedy, with Clinton, the best friend Israel ever had in the White House, and now with a new and much admired British government, and while it is representing the European Union.

Neither are the Irish impressed by protesters screaming at Cook to "go home and sort out the Irish." Ireland is a sovereign state, and no one sorts out the Irish. Comparisons flying around between Cook at Har Home and Northern Ireland have been outlandish in their ignorance — as in "what if the IRA were trying to divide London..." London isn't the capital of Northern Ireland — Belfast is, and it is just as ethnically divided as Jerusalem, so what's the point?

If there are any lessons to be learned from the Northern Ireland conflict, try this one. The British, the Irish, the Americans, and the EU all agreed on the way to proceed. The IRA and the Unionists could either take it, or go back to killing one another for another 50 years.

The Northern Irish Unionists didn't like anyone's policy or initiatives, and had to be dragged into the peace process yelling that it was a sell-out and would lead to their destruction. They're still around, they're still as noisy as ever, and it may even be dawning on them that the peace process actually aims to guarantee their survival and prosperity alongside their neighbors. But it still might be a long time before Belfast is a truly united city.

In deep sorrow and grief we mourn the passing of our beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother

LENA KATZ

The funeral will take place today, Friday, March 20, 1998 (22 Adar 5758) at 12:30 p.m. at the Shagar Funeral Home, Jerusalem. She will be laid to rest near her beloved husband.

Max Katz, on Har Hamenuhot.

Mourning by:

Her son and daughters-in-law: Shep and Judy Katz; Joseph and Shirley Katz

Her brother: Frank Yurovitz

Her grandchildren: Shari, Hedi and Ariana Katz

Suri and Gil Amir,

Aliza and Michael Grynberg

Dana and Marc Cohen,

Menachem and Benjamin Katz

Her great-grandchildren: Shiri and Ofer Amir; Yael Grynberg;

Avraham and Chanael Cohen

Shiva at her home, Netzer Yisrael 3, Eilat



We mourn the loss of

RUTH (Rachel) CHERNOFSKY

אשת רבית פנילית חזק

and extend our heartfelt condolences to

Phil and the family

הבנים נחום, חנה, ירון, אבי, יעל ודניאל

The Board, Staff and Students

Our beloved mother and grandmother

JUDITH (Julia) MELNIK

has passed away in old age.

The funeral will take place today, Friday, March 20, 1998 (22 Adar 5758) at 11 a.m. at the Nahalat Yitzhak Cemetery.

Dan Melnik

Alec, Erez and Eldad

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On the ninth anniversary of the passing of

MIRIAM WERTHEIMER

née Walach ז"ל

we will hold a memorial service on Friday, March 27, 1998 at 11 a.m. at the Nahariya cemetery.

The Family

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of

JEREMY RAPHAEL LEEFSMA

The funeral will take place today, Friday, March 20, 1998 at 12 noon at the Kibbutz Einat Cemetery. We will meet at the cemetery.

His wife, Miriam Leefsma, Mevasseret Zion

His sons and daughters-in-law, Jaron and Tsippy Lotan, Ra'anana

Omri and Yael Leefsma-Lotan, Brussels

Amitai and Reine Leefsma, Pardesia

His grandchildren, Mor, Shannie, Eyal, Maayan, Adi,

Amit, Stav, Janal, Maya, Joel

His cousins, Eddy and Clarie Leefsma, Yokneam

16 countries responsible for TB epidemic

By EDITH H. LEDERER

LONDON (AP) — Sixteen countries are responsible for a global tuberculosis epidemic that will cause more deaths this year than ever before in history, the World Health Organization said yesterday.

The failure to tackle the issue by the 16 nations — including India, Russia, Brazil and South Africa — has overshadowed progress against the TB epidemic by nearly 100 other countries, it said.

Unless urgent action is taken, nearly one billion more people will become infected and 70 million will die by the year 2020, the WHO warned.

"World leaders have to engage this microbe, which is waging, in effect, a biological warfare against mankind — and win," Dr. Richard Bumgarner, deputy director of the WHO's Global TB Program, said at a news conference at the end of a three-day meeting in London of public health and TB experts.

In an unprecedented step, the WHO declared tuberculosis a global emergency in 1993 and set a target of detecting 70 percent of infectious TB cases and curing 85% by 2000.

But Bumgarner said there was "frustration and anger" that the target would not be met because of the failure of the 16 countries to tackle TB.

A memorial meeting for

RABBI MANUEL LADERMAN

of Denver, Colorado, USA

on his reburial in Jerusalem,

will take place on Thursday, March 26, 1998 (28 Adar, 5758),

at 4 p.m., at the Rabbinical Council of America building,

18 Rehov B'nai Bith (near Rehov Straus), Jerusalem.

Prof. Shalom Rosenberg, The Hebrew University, "Judaism and Democracy"

Rabbi Benjamin Wallach, former exec. VP, RCA, "The Rabbinates of Rabbi Laderman"

Rev. Lionel Rosenfeld, Marble Arch Synagogue, London

Rabbi Paul Laderman The Family Miriam Laderman Ukeles

Jerusalem New York

Congratulations to the Knesset on adopting the Ne'eman Committee's proposal.

As Orthodox Rabbis and leaders, we have observed with deep dismay the progressive weakening of the national bonds between fellow Jews.

We cannot enforce uniformity upon a fragmented Jewish people. There are conflicts over commitments to *Halacha* and its demands within the Jewish people, even as to the essential question of who is Jewish by birth or by conversion.

What then can we achieve? What ought our goals now be?

1. KIDDUSH HA'SHEM קידוש ה'

Before any act is done or any word is spoken or written, we must ask whether that behavior will model for the world God's passionate desire for "...ways of pleasantness ... and paths of peace."

2. KEVOD HAB'RİYOT כבוד הבריות

We can affirm the essential dignity of each person by avoiding speech which degrades and devalues the other.

3. AHAVAT YISRAEL אהבת ישראל

We must repudiate hateful and violent acts and speech. We must actively seek out opportunities to relate to fellow Jews in mutually affirming programs and projects which manifest our underlying Covenant of Common Destiny.

4. GISHUR גישור

Gishur is the bridging of conflict in which the Law is sustained and Loving Kindness is manifested. Such is the nature of the proposal which emerged from the Ne'eman Committee and has been adopted by the Knesset. That solution fully protects the requirements of *Halacha*, while it provides for the inclusion and formal representation of the non-Orthodox movements, an appropriate manifestation of respect and love.

We call upon the Government to implement the Ne'eman Committee proposal as the national policy of The State of Israel.

We urge the entire Orthodox rabbinate, in the United States and in Israel, to write and call the Chief Rabbis of Israel, in strong support of their acceptance of this proposal.

There are many outstanding Religious Zionist Rabbis and political leaders in Israel who pressed for the adoption of the Ne'eman Committee proposal. They understand that we cannot endanger the survival of Israel in our internecine battles. We understand that it is vital to maintain American Jews' relationship to Israel.

We may not allow unwarranted hatred to destroy the third Jewish Commonwealth.

If we act with respect and love, we can actualize the sanctification of God's name and achieve a resolution in which *Halacha* and Kindness are lovingly intertwined.

EDAH

The courage
to be modern and Orthodox

These Orthodox Rabbis and leaders urge the full implementation of the Ne'eman Committee's proposal by Israel, its Rabbinate and the entire Jewish People.

Rabbi Saul J. Berman, Director, Edah
Judy Adler Sheer, Associate Director, Edah
Dr. Michael Hammer, Chairman, Edah

(Affiliations listed for identification purposes only)

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| Jack and Dr. Giti Bendheim | Israel Policy Forum, New York |
| Daniel and Fran Besdin | New York |
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Speed up missile defense

Although the hastily added objective of discussing a US peace plan garnered most of the attention, the main mission of Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky's trip to Washington was to express Israel's concern over Russian assistance to Iran's missile program.

Coming on the heels of the Iraqi crisis, the effort to stop Iran from developing long-range missiles highlights the finger-in-the-dike nature of the struggle against proliferation. It is critical that the US and Israel continue, and even sharpen, efforts to keep rogue regimes from developing more deadly arsenals. At the same time, Western security cannot rely completely on non-proliferation, or even on deterrence, but must be supplemented by missile defenses.

Mindful of the threat from new missile systems under development by countries such as Iran and North Korea, a US Congressional committee has approved a \$147 million package to fund experimentation on theater missile defense systems. A few weeks ago, Israel asked the United States to expand the Arrow missile defense program to include a third missile battery, also in response to long-range missile threats that were unforeseen when the program began.

The Arrow program itself is still recovering from a major fire at Israel Aircraft Industries last spring. Labor MK Ephraim Sneh, who chairs the Knesset defense establishment oversight subcommittee, claims the fire and a financial dispute between the Finance and Defense ministries over who will pay for the damage have set the program back about a year.

Despite these setbacks, the Arrow program is technically more successful than many critics expected it to be, and the recent crisis in Iraq has added impetus to make sure it is deployed as scheduled next year. Once deployed, the Arrow promises to be many times more effective than the star of the Gulf War, the Patriot.

Since the Gulf War, the record of the Patriots in defending Israel from Iraqi Scud missiles has been mixed by both fans and skeptics of missile defenses. The critics point out that the Patriot did not score as many direct hits as it seemed to those watching the Tel Aviv skies live on CNN. Patriot proponents (including presumably patrons of a Jerusalem restaurant by that name) point out that the system was designed to shoot down aircraft, not missiles, so its success was extraordinary.

In retrospect, the Patriot's contribution was to

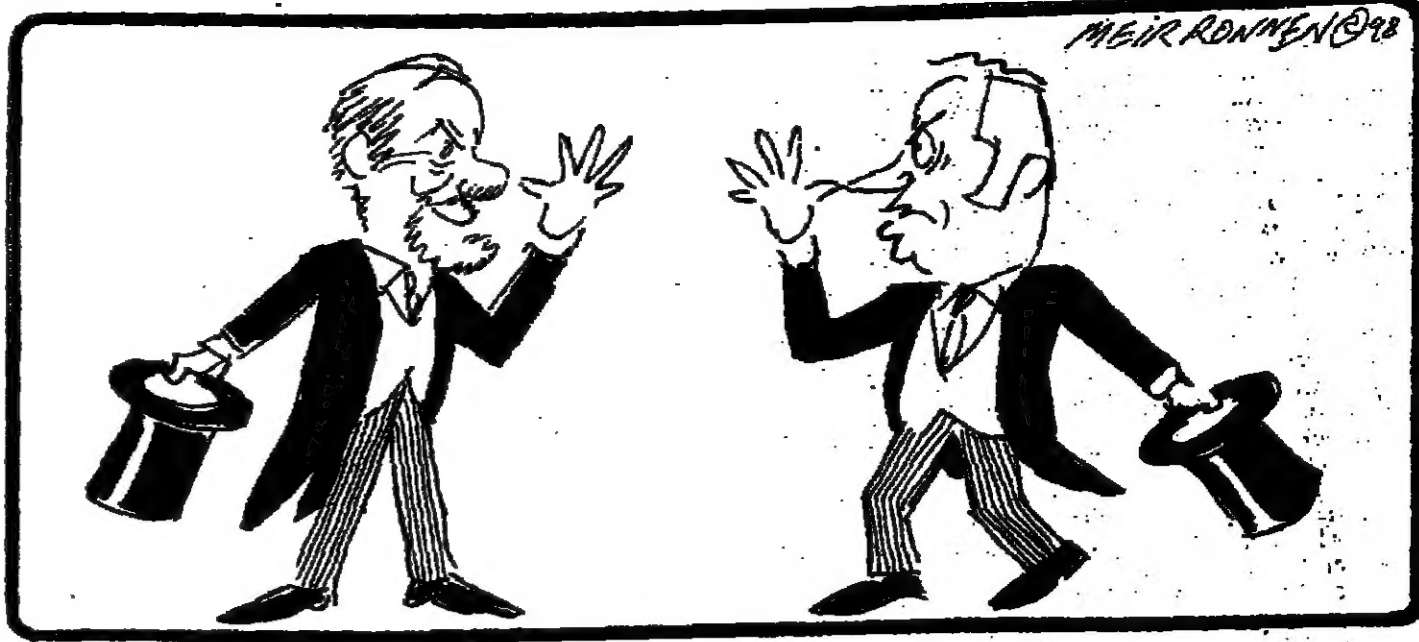
demonstrate that the seemingly impossible feat of hitting "a bullet with a bullet" can be done. The Arrow will do it much better, but it, too, does not represent the full potential of today's technologies to defend against missiles. The Arrow is not currently designed to shoot down long-range missiles, and it could be overwhelmed by large numbers of primitive, but much cheaper Scud missiles. The next generation of missile defense will target missiles in their boost phase, before they can launch decoys or split up, and while still over the aggressor's territory.

Israel is already a leader in the technologies of unmanned aircraft (UAVs) and lasers and is therefore in a good position to help develop more effective and cost-efficient missile defenses. Both the Arrow and follow-on systems will ultimately benefit from the deployment of space-based sensors, now dubbed "Brilliant Eyes." Though missile defenses developed a reputation of being expensive, the systems now being developed are now taking up small corners of Western defense budgets. One study estimated that the United States could field a global sea-based missile defense system by spending just \$2-3 billion (about 1 percent of the US defense budget) to upgrade one such system currently deployed by the US Navy.

As rogue nations such as Iran and Iraq race to develop or acquire weapons of mass destruction and long-range missiles, the West seems irresponsibly lackadaisical about developing defenses against such weapons. As the Israeli public illustrated in the rush to renew their gas masks, most people instinctively believe in defending themselves as best they can. Yet without such anti-missile systems, even a superpower like the United States lies virtually defenseless against missile attacks.

In the past, this anomaly could be explained by the Cold War theory of "Mutual Assured Destruction," by which the US and Soviet Union kept their populations mutually vulnerable to nuclear attack in order to deter a nuclear war. Whatever sense this might have made then, it makes none following the collapse of the Soviet Union and the inevitable spread of weapons of mass destruction. Western nations, including Israel, have much catching up to do to defend their populations against missile attack. If the first nuclear weapon deserved a Manhattan Project to speed its development, efforts to defend against such weapons deserve as much effort, funding, and urgency.

Seasoned Diplomats



Not good enough

DAVID ROSEN

The history of the document released by the Vatican this week, entitled "We Remember: A Reflection on the Shoah," goes back some 11 years, to the crisis in Catholic Jewish relations following the audience Pope John Paul II gave to Kurt Waldheim.

At a meeting with Jewish leaders at his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, the pontiff affirmed his commitment to reconciliation and cooperation with the Jewish people in keeping with the constructive course that had been pioneered by Pope John XXIII and indicated that a Vatican document would be produced that would address the role of the Church regarding the Shoah. He reiterated this promise at a meeting with US Jewish leaders in Miami later that year.

It had been hoped that after an 11-year gestation period, we would see a significant document that would reflect the profound soul-searching and self-criticism that has indeed taken place within many quarters of the Church and on the part of Pope John Paul II himself. However, what was revealed this week proved to be a disappointment.

Undoubtedly it does contain some very important and notable points. It acknowledges the "heavy burden of conscience" that Christians must bear regarding the Jewish victims of the Shoah, expresses "regret [for] errors and failures of sons and daughters of the Church," and issues "a call for repentance" for those sins on the part of Catholics.

Yet surely Christians were involved in more than simply "errors and failures." There is no shortage of examples of Catholic leaders who actively collaborated with the Nazis (Msgr. Josef Tiso in Slovakia is just one notorious exam-

ple). Moreover, Christian theological attitudes were used by major Catholic prelates to generate a climate of collaboration.

Take Cardinal Hlond of Poland as an example. In his Pastoral Letter of February 29, 1936, he declared that "a Jewish problem exists, and will

1995 and declared that the Church bears guilt and co-responsibility for the Shoah.

OF course, no fair-minded person could claim that Nazism and its atrocities were the work of Christianity. This document fairly

Surely Christians were involved in more than simply 'errors and failures' with regard to the Holocaust

continue to exist as long as Jews remain Jews... Jewish influence upon morals is fatal and their publishers spread pornographic literature. It is true that Jews are committing frauds, practicing usury, and dealing in white slavery. It is true that in schools, the influence of the Jewish youth upon the Catholic youth is generally evil from a religious and ethical point of view."

But, continued Hlond, "let us be just — not all Jews are like that..." He declared that the only solution "is to invite Jews to convert," then "Divine mercy [will] enlighten the Jew."

What those of us involved in relations with the Church had expected to appear in this text was no less than the same candor of language used by the French bishops in their statement last October that "Christians were guilty of both antisemitism and a direct role in the process which led to the Shoah." Indeed, the pope himself has used stronger language than this document to describe Christian misconduct (*Tertio Millennio Adveniente*, Sect. 35).

The German bishops went even further in their statement in January

points out that Nazism was, in its own way, an assault on the Church. However, as indicated above, a direct line connects anti-Judaism and "the teaching of contempt," with the antisemitic social and cultural climate that facilitated the atrocities perpetrated by the Nazis and their collaborators. This document does not clearly acknowledge that connection, and that is the main reason for our disappointment.

Nevertheless, the phrase "Rome wasn't built in a day" is not inappropriate in this context. This pope has developed the revolution in Catholic attitudes and teaching toward Jews and Judaism that commenced with the Second Vatican Council and the document *Nostra Aetate* (1965). He has made the process of reconciliation with the Jewish people one of his major priorities. He has expanded upon the Church's past condemnations of antisemitism, describing it as "a sin against God and man," and he lent his own personal weight to the establishment of full relations between the Vatican and the State of Israel.

We may hope that he will build

upon the important acknowledgment of guilt and quest for forgiveness and repentance that this document does contain, to go further, in keeping with the statements of the German, French, and other national Catholic bishops' conferences, that are unequivocal in their acknowledgment of Christian responsibility for the context in which the Shoah took place.

As far as Pope Pius XII is concerned, the document's notes quote Golda Meir, who on his death sent a message of condolence in which she said, "When fearful martyrdom came to our people, the voice of the pope was raised for its victims." Many, if not most, Jews have grave doubts on that question.

However, the issue will not be laid to rest until there is some objective examination of the archival material of those years. The fact that this has been done by Jewish scholars does not satisfy that demand — not because, as certain Vatican officials have suggested, there is bad faith and lack of trust on the part of the Jewish partners to the dialogue, but simply because we recognize that one's commitments inevitably influence one's analysis and interpretation. If the Vatican really wants to resolve this matter, it should open its archives forthwith to independent scholarly analysis.

Rabbi Rosen is director of the Israel office of the Anti-Defamation League and the ADL's co-chairman of the Vatican. He is a member of the IJCIC — the committee that represents Jewish Jewry to the Vatican's Commission for Relations with Jews and of the Permanent Bilateral Commission of the State of Israel and the Holy See that negotiated their full diplomatic relations.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TKUMA

Sir, — The *Tkuma* documentary episode dealing with "The Second Israel" gives the wrong impression that "the heartless Ashkenazi Mapai government" settled North African Jews in the ruins of Musrara and left them there to their own devices.

In fact, these Jews were squatters, in houses that were in the no-man's-land. The Jordanians were therefore legally permitted to shoot at them. This they did, two or three times a week, with dire consequences.

The routine was for our positions to fire back at the positions from which the Jordanians were firing. This was of little help to our squatters. I therefore asked the commander of the Jerusalem Brigade, (I was at the time head of the Israel dele-

gation to the Mixed Armistice Commission), to order our troops to fire at the Damascus Gate the next time the Jordanians shot at our people. This he did.

Ahmed Bey Khalil, the senior Jordanian delegate to the MAC, who was also governor of Jerusalem, asked for an urgent meeting. I suggested that the only way to stop such incidents was to divide the no-man's-land. He replied that as I well knew, we could not do this, as the subject of borders was being dealt with at top-level negotiations. I then suggested that with no prejudice to the final border we should carry out an inspection of all houses in the no-man's-land in Jerusalem and mark

them on a 1:5,000 map, red for Arab-occupied and blue for Jewish-occupied.

This he agreed to and we spent a busy night to assure as many "blue" houses as possible. This agreement on "occupied houses" stipulated that any new squatters would be expelled by force, but those already there would be left undisturbed and the respective municipalities would give them all the usual services.

The agreement achieved its purpose and henceforth Musrara became an integral part of Jewish Jerusalem.

AMB. (ret.) SHAUL RAMATI Jerusalem.

UNWILLING VICTIM

Sir, — My son Daniel is going into the army this July and his brother will be serving the following year. Like most boys he is full of excitement and looking forward to the challenge of army life. In fact, that's all we hear about these days. Like all his friends, Daniel wants to serve only in a combat unit, and just like all his friends he was raised in Israel and wants to feel like he has a stock in this country.

But unlike other boys, unlike his friends, Daniel is different. He is the son of David Rosenfeld, who was killed by terrorists in 1982 while working at Herodian.

What this means for Daniel is that I am to make the decision as to where Daniel will do his army service. Let me tell you that not a day has gone by where he has not mentioned the fact that he wants to serve in a combat unit. Not a day has gone

by without pressure in the house and the hope on Daniel's part that somehow I will change my mind and sign him into a combat unit.

I guess I am writing now because I can't believe after all we went through when David was killed and then three short years later when his murderers were set free in a prisoner exchange by the government, that the decision of army service should be left to his mother. I feel this is a cop out on the government's part. They sure knew how to decide for me when it came to freeing David's murderers. No one consulted me then.

No one even informed me that they were not only being freed but returning to the village where they lived before they killed him. I heard it on the news like the rest of the country.

Suddenly, when there are hard

decisions to make that will influence the rest of my boys' lives, the government expects me to make them. I think that not only is this wrong, but immoral. If I decide not to sign for Daniel and then his brother, I live with the fact that I am denying them the free will to do what they want to do and to serve their country in the way that they think fit for three years of their lives.

If I do sign, then I have to live with that decision and the consequences for the rest of my life. Is this a fair decision to put before a mother? I think not, and I think something should be done about it. Either way, there has to be a government decision. I should not be the victim once again.

DORIT ROSENFELD Jerusalem.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On March 20, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported that the German Consulate in Jerusalem, on explicit orders from Berlin, and despite protests lodged by a number of leading German citizens residing in Palestine, flew the swastika flag above their building.

50 years ago: On March 20, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported

that a gang of more than 400 armed Arabs attacked Har Tuv settlement, but was beaten off in a fierce engagement which claimed the lives of at least 20 attackers. Arabs were also beaten in a seven-hour attack on the JNF farm at Beit Dagan near Ein Harod.

Reversal of American attitude toward the establishment of a Jewish State and an Arab State was announced by Senator

Warren Austin to the UN Security Council. He recommended a special session of the UN General Assembly.

25 years ago: On March 20, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that the Soviets had supplied the Syrian armed forces with the portable Strela, a shoulder-launched anti-aircraft missile.

Alexander Zvielli

POSTSCRIPT

IT WAS a prank so bold and bizarre that it became a piece of University of Virginia history, as well-known to students as the achievements of the school's founder, Thomas Jefferson.

On a spring morning in 1965, a wobbly-legged cow was spotted on the dome of the university's Rotunda, 50 feet above the ground.

People marveled at the spectacle, and veterinarians had to give the 250-pound heifer a Valium shot to get it down the building's spiral staircase.

The prankster never stepped forward. The sheriff's dragnet of local

farmers failed to produce any clues. And for the next 32 years, people in Charlottesville spoke of "The Cow" without having to explain further.

Now the mystery is over. Alfred Berkeley, president of the Nasdaq Stock Market headquartered in Washington, has admitted to putting the cow on the dome.

Berkeley, a 1966 U-Va. graduate, made his confession at an alumni reunion dinner, goaded by one of the four students who had helped him pull off the stunt.

Berkeley says he takes no pride in what he did. Even at the time, he

recalled, he felt bad when he learned that the tranquilizer shot caused the cow to die later that day.

"I have a lot more of an adult view at age 53 than I did at age 20," he said.

But as a college junior he was determined to match the pranks of his father, who once hung stuffed animals on the trees outside the U-Va. president's office.

The students got in through an open window and dragged the bovine up about 100 steps. They coaxed it all the way to the edge of the Rotunda's dome.

"I wish I could say there was a

higher moral purpose," said Berkeley, "but it was just a prank."

Albemarle county sheriff George Bailey, who retired in 1988, never found the prank the least bit funny. He recalled that he was under intense pressure to solve the case.

He recently sent Berkeley a letter describing the wide-ranging, time-consuming, sheriff's investigation, and asking him for reimbursement. "I just said, 'You've cleared your conscience, now clear it with me,'" Berkeley responded with a check for \$1,755 to cover what the sheriff's office spent investigating the incident.

Dr. M. 150

There is a European example to follow

MARK A. HELLER

scored more than a few points for Netanyahu with the Israeli public. He also increased the internal pressure on Netanyahu to restart the

dial wisdom in Israel, and perhaps in the US, the Europeans really do have an important contribution to make. But it does not lie in the

to clean up the mess if it somehow turns out that his version of what needs to be done doesn't produce peace?

Contrary to the conventional wisdom in Israel, the Europeans really do have an important contribution to make. But it does not lie in the direction of mediation

construction on Har Homa.

Cook was cautioned by others no less expert or experienced than he that this would be precisely the result of this kind of contribution to the peace process, but to no avail: Either advice from non-European quarters was unwelcome, or else the temptation to make gratuitous statements on controversial issues was just too strong to resist.

This is all truly unfortunate, because, contrary to the conven-

direction of mediation, intelligent or otherwise, of the same issues that have preoccupied Israelis, Arabs, and Americans for so long.

DOES Cook really have an idea that no one has thought of before? Does he know something that no one else knows? And even if he really knows what needs to be done, does he have the power that no one else has to make it happen, and the power that no one else has

A little more reflection might have indicated that the European contribution lies in quite different directions. The first is to use the power of the European example, as symbolized by his own official party, to strengthen the idea that peace, even among historic enemies, is both possible and worthwhile. The second is to encourage experimentation where the Europeans do have a comparative advantage - in the theory and prac-

tice of multilateralism.

Europeans would be far more effective if, instead of telling the natives what to do, they showed what can be done - and how - in multilateral forums. There is a whole alphabet soup of multilateral agencies - EU, CSCE/OSCE, WEU.

Euro-Mediterranean Partnership - that could be enlisted to play an even more active role in bringing to Arabs and Israelis some of the mutual benefits of cooperation in advance of peace, thereby making the idea of peace more palatable and attractive.

Finally, the Europeans can, with economic and developmental assistance, provide a safety net that strengthens the ability of leaders on all sides to show more flexibility.

Of course, the Europeans claim that they (together) are already the largest financial contributors to the current phase of the peace process, by which they mean, to the Palestinian Authority. That is true, just as it is true that in addition to

benefiting the Palestinians, that also provides some benefit to Israel. But if the Europeans really believe, as they claim, that this assistance promotes the peace process and thus serves their own interests, then it should be seen as an action which is its own reward.

If, however, they believe that giving money to the Palestinian Authority buys them a license to lecture Israel, then no one can stop them. But they shouldn't be surprised if the result, as the systems analysts like to say, is counterproductive.

One last question for those unnamed sources who were hinting that Netanyahu's recent trip to Europe was aimed at enlisting European involvement in order to balance anticipated American pressure: Are you serious?

The writer is senior research associate at the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University.

Cooking the books

MOSHE ZAK

What did British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook want at Jerusalem's Har Homa? He had already made up his mind against it before he saw it. Was it just to attract media attention for his visit to Jerusalem as the current president of the European Union, after his predecessors in the position didn't manage to raise interest in their journeys?

His stormy visit was sandwiched between a sandstorm and a snowstorm. On its eve, *The Times* of London, knowing Cook's habits, already warned: "The sandstorm over his viewing of Har Homa has all but eclipsed the main purpose of his trip and seems likely to have a thoroughly adverse impact on the EU's hopes of becoming more actively engaged."

The visit to Israel wasn't meant as a "fact-finding mission". He has already expressed his prejudiced opinions about Israel countless times. He has even presented his five-point plan, one clause of which calls for an end to construction at Har Homa, at a meeting of the Arab-British Association, without waiting to visit Jerusalem and investigate the situation here.

The European foreign ministers who met last weekend in Edinburgh formulated their demands on Israel. They called for an increase in the extent of the IDF's forthcoming redeployment, an end to settlement expansion, a stop in Israeli construction in east Jerusalem, a foregoing of the security conditions Israel requires concerning the safe passage of Palestinians through its territory, and for the Dahaniya airport near Rafiah, in which the UK has invested over \$30 million in its construction, to begin operating.

This is the mandate that Robin Cook received, and he arranged his timetable in order that at the end of his fleeting visit, he could present a report which served his interests. This is why his cramped schedule included a three-way meeting with Peace Now representatives and an Arab group. Exactly the same formula as the St. James conference held by the British 59 years ago, when they already had up their sleeves the plan later published as the "White Paper."

The goal was the same - appeasement. Then, Britain, the mandatory power in this country, wanted to appease the Arabs by restricting Jewish immigration. Now, in the name of the EU, it wants to use the same technique to restrict Jewish settlement and even Jewish construction in Jerusalem.

In support of this assessment, one should mention a statement by British Defense Secretary George Robertson, who said on Monday that Britain is aiming for balance between the hard line that it took toward Saddam Hussein and its current pressure on Israel. The desire to appear balanced is intended to supply the British with a smoke screen to cover their one-sidedness in the Israeli-Palestinian dispute.

Nor are they afraid to use the slogan of pressure on Israel to restore themselves to a position of arbitration in the country which they left 50 years ago. They have no mandate to do so, even when in the role of EU president, just as we have no

right to interfere in the dispute between them and the Irish in Northern Ireland.

THE EU, for all its importance and economic strength, is not more concerned for peace in the Middle East than we are. It has no moral right to pressure Israel or dictate the terms of an agreement. In Israel's darkest hour, immediately after the Yom Kippur War, EU leaders were among the first to make a pro-Arab statement (the Venice Declaration, November 6, 1973).

This wasn't so much because they were convinced of the justice of the Arabs' demands, as because they urgently sought an end to the oil boycott the Arabs had imposed on one of the member states of the EU. No wonder that in return the Arabs offered to include Britain and France among the sponsors of the Geneva Conference. The US and Israel did not welcome this suggestion, and when the conference was convened in December 1973, the US and USSR were the only sponsors.

At the Madrid Conference (1991), the EU again requested to participate. Israel refused, to increase the number of sponsors, since the objective of the conference was to achieve direct bilateral negotiations with all the Arab countries. The Europeans were offended when they were only given observer status, and the European representative made a speech which showed how right Israel's objections had been. The Dutch foreign minister, representing the EU, seriously opposed Israel's position, and didn't give the slightest support to US president George Bush's proposals on direct negotiations and territorial compromise.

The Arabs have always supported the EU's demand to participate in the peace process. They want to internationalize the Arab-Israeli dispute - the complete opposite of direct bilateral negotiations. Apart from the EU's collective desire to achieve superpower status, Britain and France also want to regain the position they lost during the Suez campaign. Then, after joining forces with Israel to act against Egypt's General Abdel Nasser, they were forced out of the Middle East. Now, in order to regain their lost glory, they are willing to push Israel into a corner, if that will appease Palestinians.

The EU is entitled to struggle for influence in the international arena, and even for the markets that the European countries are trying to gain in the Arab world. But there is no need for Israel to pick up the tab. The EU is proud of the \$2 billion it contributed to economic development in the Palestinian Authority, but it doesn't say that, at the same time, the gap between European exports to Israel and European imports from Israel is growing by billions.

On at least one side of the economic balance sheet, there are profits for Israeli exporters, but not on the political balance sheet. There the EU is trying to guarantee a total loss for Israel. There is no reason to agree to such an accounting.

The writer is a Jerusalem Post columnist.

Devious diplomacy

GERALD M. STEINBERG

Before the 1991 Madrid Conference, prime minister Yitzhak Shamir warned that if the Europeans were allowed to play a role in Arab-Israeli negotiations, they would appease the Arabs at the expense of Israel's security. Robin Cook's visit, with the combination of deviousness and lack of common diplomatic sense, shows that in this case, Shamir's warning is still valid.

Cook came to Israel as the representative of the European Union, and his bumbling led to more than a temporary crisis between London and Jerusalem.

By attempting to force his attention on the reluctant hosts, he has set back the EU's Barcelona Process, and further marginalized Europe's role in the peace process. Initially, Israel rejected the British foreign secretary's plan to visit Jerusalem's Har Homa site in the company of Faisal Hussein, who is in charge of the Palestinian Authority's policy on Jerusalem. After very intense and detailed negotiations with the EU's special envoy, and the British Foreign Office, the Netanyahu government agreed to a visit without Palestinian escorts. Nevertheless, Cook chose to deliberately violate the terms of this agreement. This was not a case of misunderstanding, but rather deliberate defiance.

It was a slap in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's face and a service to the Palestinian propaganda machine, but the effect was the opposite of Cook's expressed intent.

Last year's decision to build on Har Homa may have been a mistake, but it is now impossible to reverse course without appearing to buckle under pressure. In addition, since Cook made no mention of Palestinian terrorism, after the next attack, many Israelis will blame him for tacitly accepting the murder of Jews.

What led Robin Cook to blatantly violate the basic rules of diplomacy?

Cook is a politician with no diplomatic experience, and strong views but no knowledge of the Middle East. He may have been misled into believing that this performance would change a fundamental Israeli policy, or that his defiance of Israeli sovereignty would help the opposition unseat Netanyahu (although, in fact, the confrontation clearly strengthened the prime minister). Cook's performance did succeed in appeasing the Arabs, in response to their criticism of British support for US policy during the recent confrontation with Saddam Hussein.

This foray was also a diversion from other British and EU failures and frustrations. In Northern Ireland, where the British really are still sovereign, the peace talks are also plagued by continued terrorism. In Kosovo, which is in Europe's own territory, the EU is paralyzed while the killing continues.

The degree of support that Cook had from the other members of the EU for his provocative photo-ops is unclear. However, as long as he remains Europe's representative, the organization will bear the costs. Even before this fiasco, the EU faced many obstacles to devel-

oping a useful foreign policy role.

TWO world wars and the Cold War have turned Britain, France, and Germany into second tier powers, frustrated by their inability to compete with the US. By banding together, with the resources and support of the other members, they hoped to regain a slot in the big leagues of international diplomacy.

The wise men (and women) of Europe have chosen the stalled Palestinian-Israeli peace process as their focus. The foreign ministries in Europe (like the journalists on whom they often rely) are closely attuned to the Arabs, poorly informed regarding Israeli security concerns, and tend to forget that Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East. In London, Paris, and Bonn, it is hard to find anyone who questions the premise that the impasse is Netanyahu's fault. Furthermore, if it could force Israel to change its policies, the EU would be able to trump the Americans.

This failed, as was predictable, and Cook has little to show, other than frayed tempers, for his efforts. In terms of substance, Europe is further removed from the negotiations than ever.

To make a contribution, the Europeans must become far more conversant not only with the Arab view of the problems, but also with Israeli concerns and threat perceptions. There is nothing to be gained in challenging the US and attempting to force Israel to accept Europe as a partner in the peace process. To have an impact, the EU will first have to win the confidence of Israel.

Until then, European diplomats can strengthen the foundations of the process by promoting greater communication and cooperation across the vast gulf of mutual suspicions and misunderstandings that still separates Israelis and Arabs.

Europe is a major donor to the Palestinian Authority, although this money has been misused on providing non-productive jobs in the public sector (Yasser Arafat's "police force") and gone into the pockets of high officials. By helping the PA develop a viable economic base, the Europeans will make a real contribution to Palestinian self-sufficiency and reduce the need for Israel to provide employment.

There are fundamental substantive differences between the positions of the Israeli government and the PA on issues such as Jerusalem, settlements, and terrorism. To make progress in the peace process, these differences must be narrowed, but outsiders, however powerful or well-intentioned, cannot force either party to change its deeply held positions.

Persuasion is the only available path, and this requires a detailed understanding of the complexities of the issues. This is the first lesson in diplomacy and, to succeed, Cook's replacement will have to learn from his mistakes.

The writer directs the program on arms control and non-proliferation at the BESA Center for Strategic Studies and heads the program on conflict resolution at Bar-Ilan University.



Before the next Iraqi crisis: Support Saddam's opposition

DOUGLAS FEITH

that have been frozen in the US since Saddam's invasion of Kuwait. This could help the INC establish its authority in the exclusion areas and fund opposition military forces.

In protecting the exclusion areas, the US could put into the opposition's hands virtually all the approximately three million barrels of oil that Iraq could produce daily. One of Saddam's principle vulnerabilities is the concentration of Iraq's oil in the mainly Kurdish north and mainly Shi'ite south, both regions in which large-scale anti-Saddam uprisings occurred immediately after the 1991 Gulf

War. The opportunity still exists to exploit the powerful anti-Saddam resentments that fester there.

THE US should urge the UN to lift sanctions from any area of Iraq under the opposition's control. This would tell the Arab world and others that America aims not to punish innocents in Iraq, but to relieve Iraqis of penalties they suffer as a result of Saddam's rule. The opposition would gain financial and political strength from oil sale revenues. And, if Iraq's oil were controlled by the opposition, Russia and France would have less incentive to back Saddam against

the US and more to cultivate ties with his opposition.

The US could bolster that opposition and encourage defections by working to have Saddam and his top officials indicted as war criminals and challenging the current regime's right to represent Iraq at the UN. America's purpose would be to communicate impressively that Iraq's future is not with Saddam, but the democratic opposition. To that end, the US should also make the small but valuable investment needed to establish a Radio Free Iraq.

The Iraqi military is in general ill-paid, ill-equipped, and mal-

treated. Even the Republican Guard units, which enjoy the greatest privileges, have evinced signs of discontent with their wicked, overreaching dictator. It is by no means certain that the various elements of Iraq's army would fight well, or, in some cases, at all if the US showed determination to delegitimize Saddam and to create exclusion areas to be placed under Iraqi opposition control, defended with US-supplied anti-tank weapons, and protected by the US Air Force and, only if necessary, by US ground forces.

If Saddam attempts to subjugate the exclusion zones, the US is capable of pushing him back as it pushed his forces back from Kuwait. If he refrains from chal-

lenging the zones, he will lose much of his ability to threaten his neighbors, for he will have lost control of Iraq's oil. He is unlikely to survive for long thereafter and would be largely defanged if he did.

US forces have the power to create the exclusion zones, but the Iraqi opposition's capabilities are unproven. For this and other reasons, no one can guarantee this proposed strategy's success. It is in the strategy's favor, however, that it entails limited military objectives and high potential benefits.

The writer served as a National Security Council Middle East specialist and as deputy assistant secretary of defense in the Reagan administration.

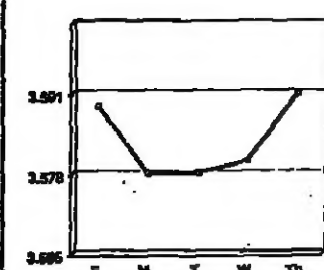
When the inevitable next Iraqi breach of promise occurs, the US administration will do well to have a strategy ready. A sensible aim would be to maximize chances that Saddam Hussein's regime can be undermined and replaced by a popular opposition movement.

Saddam runs a police state of singular brutality that has impoverished a country with substantial natural resources and has made racial enemies not only of neighboring states, but of the predominant populations in the north (the Kurds) and the south (the Shi'ites). Disaffection with Saddam throughout Iraq can be an American strategic asset, if the US would exploit it. The key to such a strategy is

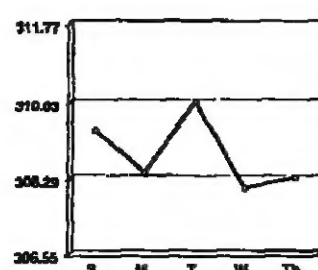
MARKETS

in brief

DOLLAR / SHEKEL

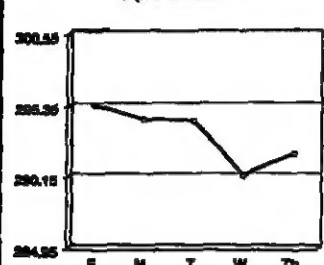


MAOF INDEX



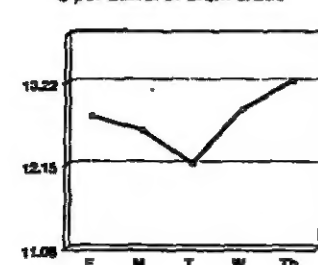
GOLD

\$ per ounce

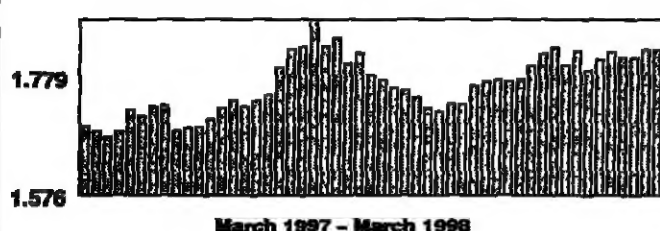


OIL

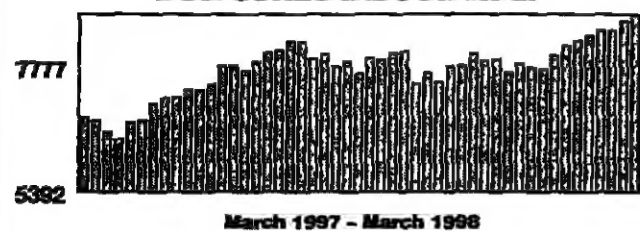
\$ per barrel of Brent crude



DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



DOW JONES INDUST. AVG.



BIT & BYTES

By NINA GILBERT

Allot Com. enlists \$4.3m. in venture capital

Allot Communications, a start-up company established in January 1997, recently collected \$4.3 million in venture capital in its second round of financing. The company, based in Los Gatos, California with offices in Kfar Sava and France, produces hardware and software solutions for structured, policy-based control and optimization of network resources.

CEO Yigal Jacoby said the investment would enable the company to expand the sales and marketing of its products internationally. The products, the AC200 and AC300, are to be supplied to customers beginning this month.

These devices enable network managers to set traffic priorities based on application type and create "congestion lanes" for high-priority traffic by combining hardware-based network probes for analyzing traffic and a Java-based application for configuring the probes and defining policies.

MCI chooses ECI system

ECI Telecom announced an agreement this week with MCI Communications to supply its Hi-TV system for a TV-over-ATM trial application. The MCI trial application will provide connectivity between TV studios, enabling transport of standard-definition TV and pre-compressed HDTV over ATM networks.

Hi-TV provides a single gateway to public broadband networks, enabling television professionals to dial up their colleagues in the TV chain and transport studio quality TV between sites in compressed, uncompressed, real-time and non real-time forms.

Jack Wimmer, executive director of network technology planning at MCI, said the system "enables MCI to take advantage of a significant business opportunity for new communications solutions, along the whole TV food chain; interconnection of broadcasters, affiliates, production and post-production studios, advertisers, and sports venues."

BackWeb signs deal with Verity

BackWeb Technologies has announced the signing of an agreement with Verity Inc. to integrate their technologies to provide push solutions for knowledge-management applications. The combined system is to be unveiled next week at an exhibition in Los Angeles.

The integrated BackWeb/Verity solution is designed for large corporations that need to quickly distribute mission-critical information in a format personalized for each user. This combination also addresses the need to extend enterprise dissemination to partners via an extranet.

BackWeb Technologies, established in 1995 by Jerusalem-based BRM Technologies and now based in California, is the leading provider of enterprise push software solutions for the Internet and corporate intranets/extranets. Verity develops and markets software tools and applications for searching, retrieving, and filtering information across the Internet.

Investech98 set for May in Washington

An Israeli high-tech conference, Investech 98, is to take place in Washington, DC in May under the sponsorship of Price Waterhouse. There are to be some 70 exhibits at the event, including high-tech firms, technological incubators, and research and development organizations. Hundreds of American companies, financiers, and venture-capital funds have been invited to attend.

First Access unveils product at CeBIT

First Access, a Haifa-based start-up, unveiled its first contactless authentication product at the CeBIT exhibition in Hannover this week.

The product is the first that enables computers and networks to automatically and securely authenticate a user without any action on his part. The First Access Card and First Access Sensor authenticate the user from a distance of a few meters without any keyboard typing or card swipe. The company's radio-linked smart card is tagged to employees and linked by radio to the computer, thus ensuring access only to computers only by authorized individuals.

Israeli firms' business projects abroad worth at least \$600m.

By NINA GILBERT

Israeli companies are involved in international projects valued at some \$600 million-\$700m. annually, according to the Israel Export Institute. The export of professional services in these projects is worth some \$150 million, with 95 percent added value, said institute director Amir Hayek.

According to Hayek, Israel has a potential to reach \$1 billion in these services in three-five years.

Hayek was speaking to members of the Knesset Finance Committee, who were hosted yesterday at the institute in Tel Aviv.

Industry and Trade Ministry Director-General Dov Mishor said tens of billions of dollars worth of international projects financed by governments and international banks are available every year, but Israel does not do enough to capitalize on its potential.

"Israel is a member of the World Bank and

a number of regional banks, but does not use its membership in these organizations to advance its participation in international projects," he said. These banks invest some \$20b. a year in such projects.

Israel has a comparative advantage in Eastern Europe due to its immigrant population, Mishor said.

There are some 200 project consultancy and management companies in Israel, but very few take part in international ventures, according to the institute.

A new, NIS 35m. investment promotion fund was established this year at the Industry and Trade Ministry to help finance the initial expenses involved in winning foreign projects. The institute has also established a branch for consultancy and management firms.

Bateman Engineering, which recently won a \$180m. gas booster-station project in Turkmenistan, explained to the committee the costs involved in a project before a con-

tract is signed. In a previous \$106m. gas project in Russia, these costs amounted to some \$2m., he said.

Some \$40m. is to be spent on Israeli equipment and services for the Turkmen project.

Committee chairman Avraham Ravitz (United Torah Judaism) said the government should consider boosting the aid budget for the projects. "The world market is becoming more and more open, but the question is how can we market the Jewish brain abroad," he said. "The more we can advance economic projects the better for the economy."

At the same time, he said, the government is faced with a dilemma as it is aiming to get out of business. In international projects, however, other advanced government give significant assistance, he noted.

Ophir Pines (Labor) said the government should consider whether it is using its budget wisely, given the recent trend of increased spending on social welfare at the

expense of investment in export expansion and technology. "We have to ask whether by this method we are selling the future for the sake of the present."

Nissim Dahan (Shas) said that instead of investing in factories, it makes sense to invest in exports and projects abroad which in turn create work for factories.

The institute offers a variety of aid and information for exporters and investors abroad, including pamphlets of information for exporting to Arab markets, including Syria, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Oman, Yemen, and the United Arab Emirates.

Iandi, an agricultural projects company established in 1995, is completing a \$13m. vegetable farm and processing plant in India. Some \$6m. of that sum was spent in Israel. \$4.5 million on equipment and another \$1m. on professional services, according to company vice president Moty Sharon. He said the company is now starting a project in China.

Neeman's aid talks in US put off

By DAN GERSTENFELD

The visit planned by Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman to Washington to discuss a reduction of US civilian aid is likely to be canceled, the minister's spokeswoman Estie Appelbaum said yesterday.

According to the original plan, Neeman was expected to hold talks with members of the administration and Congress to agree on the specifics for the reduction, in return for an increase in military aid.

The spokeswoman said the visit was postponed because the Americans have not completed their preparations yet and were not ready to discuss possible changes in the aid scheme.

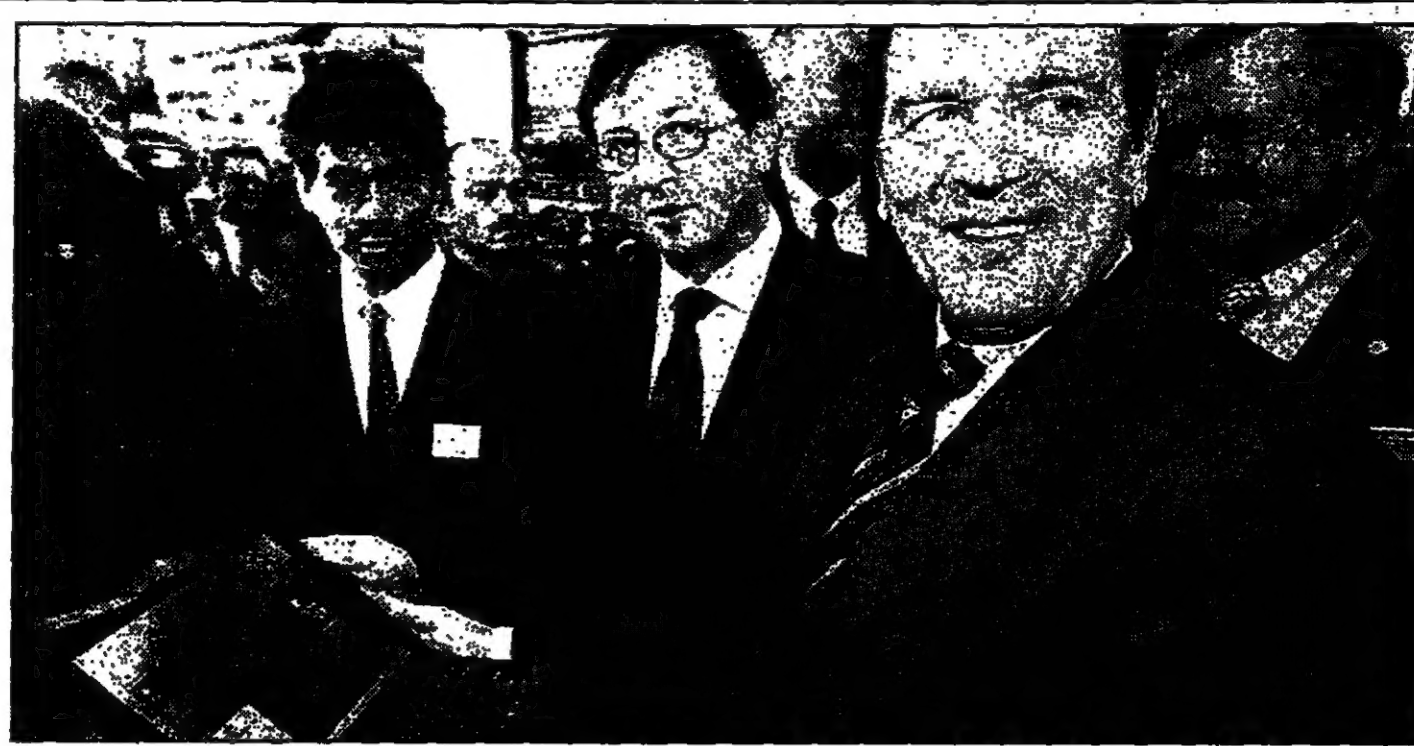
During his visit to the US in January, Neeman proposed a gradual reduction of Israel's \$1.2 billion annual aid.

Under the proposal, half of the civilian aid (\$600 million) would be transferred to Israel's US military aid account, or added to the current military assistance amount of \$1.8b., for a total of \$2.4b.

In a speech to a joint session of Congress in July 1996, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pledged to begin by 1999 a process of weaning Israel of US aid.

Appelbaum said the talks could still take place if the schedule changes.

She added that Neeman will continue with his planned tour and meet leading businessmen and Jewish leaders in London and New York.



World's thinnest computer

Gerhard Schroeder, premier of Lower-Saxony, Germany, holds the world's thinnest laptop computer made by Packard. The laptop was on display the computer fair CeBIT in Hannover.

US trade gap widens to six-year high

The US trade deficit in goods and services widened in January to a six-year high, as a decline in exports outpaced a drop in imports.

The shortfall increased to \$12.043 billion in January after widening in December to a revised \$10.896 billion, the Commerce Department said. Analysts expected that January's deficit widened to \$11.4 billion from December's previously reported \$10.785 billion.

Exports of goods and services fell 2.6 percent to \$77.283 billion in January, the lowest level since last February, primarily reflecting weaker demand for commercial aircraft.

Imports fell 1.0 percent to \$89.327 billion in January, reflecting less spending - and in some cases lower prices - on oil,

computers, semiconductors, aircraft, autos, and parts.

As 1998 unfolds, "the trade deficit is set to explode," according to a forecast by Don Hilber, an economist at Northwest Corp. in Minneapolis.

January's level of imports was about \$6 billion higher than a year earlier.

Imports are expected to increase as the dollar's strength against Asian currencies makes foreign-made goods a better bargain for US consumers. Asian manufacturers are also trying to compensate for weak demand at home with sales in the US, which continues to benefit from a growing economy.

Exports, meantime, will suffer as business failures and reduced spending in the Pacific Rim reduce demand for industrial

equipment.

Motorola Inc. recently warned its first-quarter earnings will fall

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more than 25 percent below expectations, largely because of slow sales of semiconductors and wireless phones in Asia.

January's overall deficit was the widest since January 1992, when the government started tracking goods and services trade on a monthly basis, a government spokesman said. (Bloomberg)

EUROPE A Small Continent with a Big Future

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TASE finishes mixed

Wall Street

Stocks extend their run into the record books to a fourth straight session yesterday but the rally slowed as investors weighed the latest economic numbers that suggested inflation may have bottomed out.

Based on early, unofficial data, the Dow Jones industrial average ended up 27.65 points at a record 8,803.05. It was also the first close above 8,800.

In the broader market, advancing issues led declines 16 to 12 on moderate volume of 390 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Nasdaq composite index also set a new high, gaining 11.70 points to 1,799.98. The Standard & Poor's 500 stock index also set a new high, rising 4.22 to 1,089.74.

"We are still getting forward movement, and clearly there is money out there that is trying to get in," said Marshall Acuff, portfolio strategist at Salomon Smith Barney.

"But I would guess that the momentum is slowing down. We are getting continued rotation in the market and that gives the impression that it is doing better than it is," he said.

The headline game came at the end of a cautious session as investors took some early profits, mulling a batch of strong economic data and waited for Friday's traditionally volatile triple-witching expirations. (Reuters)



Maof 308.29 ▲ 0.08%

Dow Jones 8803 ▲ 0.32%

FTSE 5997.9 ▲ 1.6%

Nikkei 16679.02 ▲ 0.36%

Tel Aviv

Israeli stocks were mixed yesterday, with state-controlled telephone company Bezeq rising on expectations it will post a rise in profits in the fourth quarter.

Bezeq, the most active gainer, rose 1.3 percent to NIS 9.51 (\$2.66), helping the Maof Index of 25 largest companies to gain 0.08 percent to 308.29.

The telephone company is cutting its workforce by 20 percent to be able to compete as the government allows other companies to start providing international and cellular phone service.

Government officials also want to end Bezeq's monopoly of the local phone market by 1999.

"At the moment, new competition won't affect them. It will take a year or two," said Israel Weinberg, deputy chief executive at Impact Securities.

"Bezeq will present good reports, and at this price the company is still attractive," compared with phone companies abroad, he said.

Bezeq is to report fourth-quarter earnings before the end of the month.

Israel Discount Bank, the most active issue, fell 1 percent to NIS 4.1. The bank's shares have risen nearly 20 percent over the previous eight trading sessions on speculation that an investor is seeking to gain a controlling stake.

Last Thursday, the bank said it expects a sharp decline in fourth-quarter profit because of a growth in provisions for bad debt and

declines in income from lending activities.

"They still have a lot of work to do to make the bank more efficient," said Moshe Jontas, a manager at Moritz & Tuchler's Israel office.

Africa-Israel Investments Ltd. Series 0.1 shares were unchanged. The holding company purchased 20 percent of a Russian brokerage for NIS 32m., a spokeswoman said.

Europe

UK stocks rose, taking all three major indexes to records, as oil companies gained amid speculation oil-exporting countries will drive up the price of crude. Gains by British Telecommunications Plc helped power the ascent.

The UK's benchmark FTSE 100 index climbed 94.3 points to a record of 5997.9, closing just shy of the 6000-point mark. Oil companies led the gains with British Petroleum Plc and Shell Transport & Trading Co. together adding more than 21 points to the index.

"The market wants to touch 6,000 — you can feel it," said Simon Smith, an investment manager at Albert E. Sharp in Birmingham, which handles about 4.5 billion pounds (\$7.5b.) in assets. "Obviously, the oil price has been under a lot of pressure and that's why they've performed fairly poorly, but I'd expect a sustained recovery."

Oil prices rose amid speculation the Organization of Petroleum

Exporting Countries may plan cut production in the face of a worldwide glut of oil. Venezuelan oil minister Erwin Arias said he'll attend a March 30 meeting of an OPEC committee to discuss oil price languishing close to 10-year lows, raising expectations of supply cuts. Venezuela is OPEC's largest quota violator and has refused to pump less unless others do so.

Asia

Japanese stocks were mixed, as a rise in automakers on expectations of new economy-boosting measures was offset by a decline in retailers on signs sluggish demand is squeezing profits.

Toyota Motor Corp. led the rise in automakers, while supermarket operator Ito-Yokado Co. led retail-

STOCKS

Exports down.

"It's another tug-of-war between persistent hopes for government policy and sobering economic reality," said Masatoshi Sato, a manager at Kankaku Securities Co.'s product marketing division.

The benchmark Nikkei 225 index rose 59.34 points, or 0.36 percent, to 16,679.02 after falling 2.2 percent Wednesday, its biggest tumble in three weeks. The Topix index of all shares on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange fell for a second day, declining 3.52 points, or 0.28 percent, to 1249.57.

Kabun Muto, a senior member of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, called for a personal income tax cut of as much as 5 trillion yen to stimulate demand, according to the Sankei newspaper.

The report encouraged traders to buy Nikkei 225 index futures and shares in automobiles, which fell almost 2 percent as a group Wednesday.

"We're mostly seeing buybacks, but some institutional investors are taking new positions on the view yesterday's fall left shares undervalued," said Shigao Ogasawara, a manager at Tachibana Securities Co.'s corporate division.

Banks fell on concern Standard & Poor's decision Monday to cut Tokai Bank Ltd.'s credit rating portends more downgrades in Japan's debt-burdened financial industry.

"Banks aren't out of the woods yet," said Chotaro Suzuki, a manager at Kyokuto Securities Co.'s "The market is wondering who will be next." (Bloomberg)

Yen little changed despite Japan threat to sell dollars

The dollar was little changed yesterday near a two-month high against the yen after a senior Japanese official hinted the government might buy yen to bolster its slumping currency.

Eisuke Sakakibara, Vice Finance Minister for International Affairs, said Japan will take decisive action to stem the yen's decline, Dow Jones reported. The dollar rose almost 4 percent against the yen this month as traders speculated Japan would not take the necessary steps to revive its economy.

"Japan is sending out some heavy hints" that it doesn't want to see the yen fall much further, said Lee Ferridge, chief currency strategist at Commerzbank.

Also holding the dollar back was a report showing a bigger-than-expected rise in the US trade

deficit in January. The dollar was quoted at 130.43 yen, compared with 130.15 yen in late London trading Wednesday. It was little changed at 1.8282 marks after an unexpected decline in German business confidence added to expectations its economy won't soon recover.

Germany's Ifo economic research firm said its index of Western German business confidence fell to 98.7 in February, from 99.3 in January.

"I don't think one can read too much into a slight decline in business confidence," Paul Meggess, senior currency economist at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell.

"We're still stuck in a tight range on dollar mark."

The Bundesbank left interest rates unchanged yesterday (Thu), and a report showing a slower-

CURRENCIES

Dollar 3.591 ▲ 0.31%

Basket 3.8365 ▲ 0.21%

Mark 1.9626 ▼ 0.11%

Sterling 5.9887 ▲ 0.83%

Yen 130.43 ▼ 0.21%

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Copper declines amid concern over a global glut

Precious metals

Copper fell amid continuing concern over a global glut of the base metal this year. Copper production in Chile, the world's largest producer, is set to rise 12.9 percent this year, the government said in January. At the same time, sagging economies in East Asia are set to reduce demand for metal products in the region.

Copper for three-months delivery fell \$5 to \$1.776 a metric ton on the London Metal Exchange. Platinum rose amid mounting concern Russian exports of the precious metal are not likely to resume in the immediate future.

Russia, the world's second-largest platinum producer behind South Africa, has not shipped any of the precious metal so far this year amid continued delays in the granting of export licenses. Spot platinum rose \$3.50 to \$412.50 an ounce.

COMMODITIES

Gold \$291.65 ▲ 0.25%

Crude Oil \$13.21 ▲ 0.1%

CRB 226 ▼ 0.25%

Energy

Crude oil rose on speculation the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries could agree to cut production to reduce the weight of oversupply on global markets at a March meeting.

Many investors who followed Buffett into the market after the announcement have since sold the metal, relieving tight supplies that contributed to the price rise.

Manufacturing's in great shape," said Joseph LaVorgna, economist at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell. "Trade will be a drag, but that is going to be more than offset by a strong consumer and domestic spending."

None of the reports change the underlying view that the economy is still growing with little inflation, traders said.

Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank President Thomas Hoenig said the best course for Fed policy-

makers is to leave US interest rates unchanged until the full impact of the Asian economic crisis is apparent.

Consumer prices rose 0.1 percent in February, 0.3 percent excluding food and energy prices. Analysts forecast gains of 0.1 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively.

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US bonds unaffected by price, trade reports

BONDS

US 30-year T-bill yield

5.91 ▲ 0.01

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5.91 ▲ 0.01

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5.91 ▲ 0.01

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US 30-year T-bill yield

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BONDS

US 30-year T-bill yield

5.9

Is the government really ready to leave Lebanon?

Israel's latest Lebanon proposal is seen as a ruse by many on both the Right and Left. But government officials insist it isn't a new initiative at all, but part of an ongoing behind-the-scenes effort that began soon after Binyamin Netanyahu came to power, Sarah Honig reports

It was almost surreal this week to see how Lebanon - Israel's great emotive bone of contention for nearly two decades - managed to produce a degree of agreement between the far Left and far Right. Both fringes of the political spectrum were skeptical about whether the government's declared readiness to consider a withdrawal from Lebanon should be taken at face value.

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid pulled no punches.

"This is yet another example of the limitless resources for chicanery possessed by this government," he says. "Dishonesty and deceit are its sole strong suits. This is a government by fraud."

"All this is an attempt - yet another attempt - to pull the wool over the public's eyes and to dupe it into thinking that the end of the Lebanon nightmare is at hand. But nothing could be further from the truth. The government knows that its proposals are non-starters. It is out to make an impression - not make a change."

Sarid's arch-foe, Moledet leader Rehavam Ze'evi, doesn't see things all that differently, although he of course approaches the issue from the opposite extreme.

"I oppose any sort of withdrawal that would not ensure the safety of Israelis in the North. Everything I was told thus far leads me to harbor great misgivings about what is being bandied about."

"These plans will not bring any glad tidings to those who live in the range of the Katyushas and the range now - if we abandon the security zone - will extend all the way to the suburbs of Haifa."

"There is nothing good about any facet of this scheme, except for the fact that nothing is likely to come of it. I think the authors of the plan know this well. However, as a clever ruse and as a tactic it is excellent."

ZE'EV AND Sarid are not alone in suspecting a trick. There are many saying this, on both sides of the great political divide.

In fact, one school of political thought is that the calm with which talk of a withdrawal is being greeted in the Likud arises from the realization that there's most likely no withdrawal in the offing, and that too much squawking about it would foil a masterful diplomatic stroke on part of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Few in the Likud want to put spokes in Netanyahu's wheels, it is argued.

This is how Labor MK Haim Ramon sees it. "The relative silence on the part of usually volatile Likudniks is more telling than anything," he says. "It's not their nature to keep mum and especially on so controversial an issue."

"The answer is to be sought not in the domain of statesmanship but of public relations. This government is between a rock and a hard place both in the domestic political sphere and in the foreign relations sphere," Ramon continues.

"There is great pressure at home to get the boys out of Lebanon. No parent wants his son there. This is a potent force. There is also pressure from abroad by America and Europe,

who are dismayed at the demise of the Oslo process. Netanyahu is out to deflect attention from the Palestinian impasse by seeming to offer a Lebanese concession."

According to Ramon, Netanyahu decided to "kill all birds with one little stone. With feigned innocence he will get the anxious mothers and the foreign leaders off his back. He'll infuse false hope that there is a real change around the corner."

"And if that change doesn't materialize, it will not be his fault. He'll make believe he wants a deal - knowing full well that his sort of a deal can't happen."

Why not?

"Because Netanyahu won't pay the price," Sarid asserts. "No one likes the idea of withdrawal more than I - any withdrawal. But Netanyahu's withdrawal is impossible because it has to be paid for by another withdrawal - from the Golan. If the Golan is not handed back to Syria, there will be no peace on the Lebanese border."

LABOR'S YOSHI BEILIN, who has been campaigning for an immediate, full and unconditional withdrawal from Lebanon for the past few months, does not like the linkage Sarid is making, but he too distrusts Netanyahu's motives.

"What happened so suddenly? What made them all wake up now? Why is this month different from those that came before?" asks Beilin.

"Why," asks Netanyahu's ministers, officials and emissaries scurrying all over the world in an effort to win support for their so-called plan? It smells of a PR ploy," asks Beilin.

"Poppycock," is how Netanyahu's communications director David Bar-Ilan reacts to such talk.

"I find it amazing how short and how selective some political memories are. Those who followed this issue closely would not ask 'why now' and would not suspect a stratagem. There is absolutely no change of policy or no new policy. But there is an ongoing process. The talk about a sudden shift is preposterous."

Bar-Ilan notes that "almost as soon as Netanyahu took the oath of office in 1996 he spoke of precisely what he says now. None of this has popped up out of the blue for political reasons of one sort or another."

"From the very outset of his term, Netanyahu spoke of pulling out of Lebanon if solid security arrangements can be worked out and if the continued safe existence of our allies in South Lebanon can be assured. Netanyahu already then embarked on precisely the same policy he is enunciating now. He did not hinge withdrawal from Lebanon on a separate full peace treaty with that country, nor did he demand the removal of Syrian troops from Lebanon as the precondition for our pulling back."

"Both these were prerequisites put up by previous governments. Anyone who looks back at archives from 1996 will find these exact statements from Netanyahu."

WHAT HAPPENED after Netanyahu floated his ideas at



The IDF withdrawal from Lebanon, 1985. Will the army now vacate the security zone as well?

(André Bruttman)

How to get out

The official plan, backed by Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, calls for a single, full pullback, accompanied by a deal with the Lebanese and reinforced by a foreign guarantor. The IDF's outposts would be handed over in an orderly fashion - with the help of a UN force - to the Lebanese Army. The South Lebanese Army would be incorporated into the Lebanese Army and would remain in the south to protect its population and prevent violation of the agreement.

National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon's

premise is that the official plan is wishful thinking. Instead, he proposes a gradual, unilateral pullback with no fixed timetable.

Under Sharon's plan, Israel will examine what happens in a given area after it is vacated and how the Lebanese Army copes there. Any disturbance of the peace will be forcefully punished.

Further pullbacks will be evaluated if the arena remains calm. If not, Israel will be free to act. Israel will remain responsible for the safety of the SLA soldiers and their communities, but Sharon did not elaborate what this means.

Mordechai first mentioned Resolution 425 publicly when he visited France last year, notes David Bar-Ilan. 'Too bad so few noticed,' he says. 'These pronouncements are not brand new.'

This, however, does not free Israel of the need to try any avenue, they stress, even if the effort is eventually thwarted by the absurdity of Arab governments foiling an Israeli withdrawal.

THIS IS where National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon comes in. His plan for a phased unilateral

pullback does not contradict the one backed by Netanyahu and Mordechai. He presents it as an alternative geared to deal with the likelihood that the Syrians will apply their stranglehold on Lebanon and will not allow Israel to extricate itself from the Lebanese quagmire.

The Netanyahu government has already announced that it will under no circumstances pay for the privilege of leaving Lebanon with the currency of the Golan Heights.

Sharon, in effect, hands Netanyahu the ultimate weapon with which to call the Syrian bluff.

"In a sense," says Sharon, "we are telling the Syrians that we can do things unilaterally without waiting for their goodwill or for the Lebanese to get brave. We can get out of Lebanon in a series of phases and keep the Golan."

"But if at any stage of our pullback anyone fires from the Lebanese side of the border, there will be hell to pay - without Grapes of Wrath constrictions,"

Sharon said. Superhawks like Likud MK Uzi Landau prefer the Sharon plan "because it leaves Israel a free agent, with its hands untied and with no dependence on ambiguous deals and foreign interference."

But many around Netanyahu do not take the Sharon plan seriously.

They oppose the idea of building up expectations for a series of withdrawals, while any complaints later by Israel of an Arab failure to keep the peace would be dismissed by the entire world, as the case of the Palestinian Authority illustrates. Hence the need for a guaranteed single deal.

They agree with the consensus in the Likud that Sharon is not challenging Netanyahu or Mordechai, and that there is no hidden power play here. But they do claim that the Sharon move is precisely proof that what Bar-Ilan calls "an ongoing process" is indeed gaining momentum.

These aides claim that as soon as it became clear inside the Likud that things were happening and that interesting responses had been arriving from the other side, a scramble began on the part of many Likud politicians to link themselves to what they now perceive as inevitable.

The motive is to be credited for what is already in motion.

Sharon is no different and he has done this before. What sets him apart from the others, however, is that he is no ordinary bandwagon climber. He comes with original, well-considered blueprints and he commands a following. When Sharon comes out in favor of something, he makes it far more difficult for the diehards to oppose it.

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Vatican's struggle to save the church's soul

Even those who see this week's Vatican document on the Holocaust as a positive step say it lacks the necessary guts. And until the Vatican opens its archives, many questions will remain. **Thomas O'Dwyer reports**

To outsiders, one of the most intriguing practices of the Catholic religion is confession, the ritual by which penitents seek forgiveness for sins against the Ten Commandments.

Catholics must prove true repentance by painfully admitting their transgressions to a priest, who represents the ear of God. Only then may the priest absolve the sins in the name of God.

By the measure of the church's own strict sacrament, this week's 14-page confession of the Vatican's sins of omission in the Nazi era has been judged a disappointing failure by many leading Jews — a half-hearted repentance that is just not good enough, either in the eyes of man or of heaven.

Not quite so, says Dr. Yehuda Bauer, who heads the Holocaust Research Institute at Yad Vashem, and who is also professor of Holocaust studies at the Hebrew University.

"The document has to be evaluated positively," Bauer said in an interview. "It relates to the Holocaust as a major tragedy — the major tragedy — of this century; it repeats the present pope's stand against antisemitism, and it pledges to continue the church's fight against antisemitism."

Bauer added that the document obliges members of the church to think about what they did, or failed to do, during the Holocaust.

"In his statement presenting the document, Cardinal Edward Cassidy said it was only a first step, opening the door to more discussion and more dialogue. This is important. I am not saying it is positive for diplomatic reasons, but for its importance."

But Dr. Efraim Zuroff, the director of the Israel office of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, said the Vatican document falls on three major issues, as well as on an important secondary matter.

"It fails to take responsibility for the doctrinal antisemitism which paved the way for Nazi antisemitism, and which enabled Catholics to participate in the Holocaust — not only in Germany, which is half Catholic, but more

especially in places like Lithuania and Croatia.

"The document is a total cop-out on the role of Pope Pius XII. He failed completely to use his moral leadership to condemn and to oppose Nazism. In fact, his overriding fear of communism led him to consider Nazism the lesser of two evils. If he had set the power and moral authority of the church against the Nazis, he could have saved millions."

"The third failure is on the post-war period. The document makes no mention of the Nazi escape routes — the ratlines — aided by some priests; it makes no mention of the shelter offered to fleeing Nazis by some churches, or of the continuing antisemitic statements of some postwar church leaders."

Zuroff said another major problem associated with the Vatican document is the continued secrecy of the Vatican archives — on which Bauer also criticized the church.

"The archives have nothing to do with document itself," Bauer said. "But as long as they remain closed to scholars, some of the document's statements cannot be verified. The Vatican document suggests Pius did more than he knew, that he saved tens of thousands of Jews. I say, fine — so open the archives and show us."

Bauer said the document, 11 years in preparation, goes less far in the right direction than statements already made by the pope himself, or by conferences of bishops in France, Germany, the US, and other countries. But it is important in that it comes from the core hierarchy of the Vatican.

"No blame is attached to the present pope," said Zuroff. "He was a young man at the time, and he is in fact sensitive and very sympathetic to Jewish matters."

"It is ironic that Christians think him very conservative on doctrinal matters — abortion and birth control — but we can say he is very progressive and liberal on dealing with Jews. But his church's statement still lacks the guts that would make it satisfactory."

Pope John Paul II contributed only a preface to the new Vatican



Australian Cardinal Edward Cassidy, president of the Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews, reads out the Vatican's controversial confession, which expresses deep regret for the "errors and failures" of Roman Catholics during the Holocaust but strongly defends the wartime pope, Pius XII. (AP/Photo Dept)

document, in which he remembered friends and neighbors who vanished in his native Poland. He called the Holocaust "an unspeakable iniquity."

"It took us 50 years to get this one document from the Vatican," said Zuroff. "It probably will take another 200 years to get the one we want."

THE RESPONSIBILITY of individuals for the church's failure to confront the Nazis remains the most serious issue the Vatican document has skirted, but Bauer said the bravery of many senior churchmen, as well as ordinary priests and nuns who saved thousands of Jews, should also be remembered.

"The first handgun smuggled to the Vilna ghetto came from the hand of the abbot of the Benedictine monastery on the outskirts of Vilna," he said.

"Then there were senior people like Archbishop Szeptycki of Lvov, Antwerp's archbishop Van Roey, archbishop Saliege of Toulouse. There was papal nuncio

Angelo Rotta in Budapest, who will soon be recognized as a Righteous Gentile by Yad Vashem. He opposed his own cardinal to save Jews and worked with Raul Wallenberg. Cardinal Roncalli [later Pope John XXIII] did what he could in Istanbul."

Roncalli was apostolic delegate to Turkey and a close friend of the late president Chaim Herzog's father. Herzog, often a stern critic of the church, wrote: "Roncalli worked to save Jews every way he could... he stands out as the personality who was ready to dedicate himself to saving Jews."

Pastoral letters read out in churches and signed by archbishops Saliege of Toulouse, Theas of Montauban and Gerlier of Lyons, after they had become aware of the fate in store for Jewish deportees, resulted in widespread Catholic rescue efforts and French Resistance activity from late August 1942.

"However, it is still true the vast majority of individual priests and Catholic faithful were completely

indifferent, or downright hostile to Jews," Bauer said.

He said the church's failure was a failure of leadership and authority, and while many Catholics were willing to take a private stand, "the pope's colleagues and priests were not actively told to save Jews."

Yet, even Pius did save thousands of Jews in Rome by ordering monks and nuns to give them sanctuary, Bauer said, "but he did it quietly, secretly."

Oddly, the Vatican did take one strong and direct stand against the deportations — in Slovakia, in mid-1942, which temporarily halted the deportations.

"We should also remember that Jews were not the only ones who suffered from the pope's failure to speak out. He kept silent when Polish priests were being murdered by the Nazis. And the Gypsies who were exterminated — most of them were Catholics."

Bauer said the Holocaust had brought a really serious crisis on Christianity.

"Christians have to say, here we were, 1,900 years after we got our savior from the Jewish people — and his people were still being

murdered by supposed Christians."

LIKE OTHER experts, Bauer strongly criticized the church's attempt to draw a distinction between Hitler's antisemitism and Catholic antisemitism.

This hair-splitting first surfaced as early as 1936, when *Civiltà Cattolica*, an official publication, pointed out how Christian antisemitism "differs from the antisemitism of the Nazis."

"It is perhaps true that Nazism was a neo-pagan ideology which attacked Christians as well, but the distinction is anti-factual," said Bauer. "Without Christian antisemitism there would have been no Nazi antisemitism."

Bauer said Nazi propaganda repeated church antisemitism from previous centuries — verbatim at times.

"The Nazis repeated the legend of Jews in a worldwide conspiracy, a force for corruption and evil. They expanded on rulings of the 13th century Lateran Council of the church — ideas of physically separating Jews from Christian society, of making them wear a yellow patch, of professions for-

bidden to Jews."

Asked why the Vatican comes in for more scrutiny than the eastern Orthodox churches who held sway in Belarus, Greece or Ukraine, or some Protestant churches, Zuroff said the moral authority of the Catholic Church was far greater.

"The strength of the Catholic Church comes from the strength of its hierarchy. Ask any person in the street who the pope is and they will probably know. No one would know who is head of the Orthodox Church. The superior authority and moral stature of the Vatican is what renders its statements more important, more authoritative."

Bauer said there are many historians who assert that even if Pius XII had spoken out, it would not have saved a single Jewish life.

"They cite his condemnation of the invasion of Holland and Belgium — no one paid the slightest attention, he achieved nothing."

"But the fact is, he should have come out publicly. Christian doctrine, Christian authority, Christian morality demanded it. He might not have saved the Jews, but he would have saved his soul."

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A million Israelis who won't be celebrating

For many of the nation's Arab citizens, Independence Day is more reason to grieve than to party, Larry Derfner reports

Every Independence Day, Michael Fanous, an Arab city councillor in Ramle, tries to be far away from home. It conjures up bad memories, he says, and so he'd prefer to leave the city's Jews to celebrate on their own.

Fanous has no plans for April 30, Israel's 50th Independence Day. "I definitely won't be celebrating, though," he says. "I understand that the Jews are happy over winning their independence, but they have to understand that what happened in 1948, which is what makes them happy, is the reason most of my family is no longer in Ramle."

Every Independence Day, many of Ramle's 12,000 Arabs (out of a population of 65,000) come out to shake hands with city officials, and watch the dancing and fireworks. Many will no doubt do the same this time. "But I don't think any Arab citizen of Israel is happy in his heart on Independence Day," says Fanous.

Together in pride, together in hope is the theme of Israel's jubilee, but the country's nearly one million Arab citizens are not part of this togetherness. They can't be. The Arabs started the war in 1948, and the Jews' victory was their loss. Some 700,000 became refugees. The great majority fled the country, but some, including nearly all the Arabs of Ramle, were expelled.

Palestinians have a different term for the War of Independence — they call it the "Nakba," or "calamity." They plan to commemorate their Nakba in a low-key way, with lectures and exhibits in some West Bank and Gaza cities.

Israeli Arabs are debating whether to observe a kind of "anti-Independence Day" of their own. The Monitoring Committee, which includes Arab MKs, mayors and public figures, has entertained the idea of declaring Independence Day the "50th Anniversary of the Palestinian Catastrophe." Yesterday, they met to discuss the proposal. Other suggestions include treating the Israeli holiday as a day of mourning, and publishing a "black book" listing the many Arab villages destroyed in the war.

"There are many proposals, but no plans yet," says Samih al-Kasim, editor of the Nazareth newspaper *Kul al-Arab* and one of the Arab world's leading poets.

Arab Democratic Party MK Taleb a-Sanaa has recommended that Israeli Arabs mark the day with a minute of silence in memory of all the Palestinians killed between 1948 and today.

"What exactly does Israel want me to celebrate?" he has asked. Other Arab MKs have voiced similar sentiments. "We have no part in this thing whatsoever," Arab Democratic Party MK Toufik Khatib has said.

The jubilee celebrations will not address the alienation felt by Israeli Arabs. "Our job is to plan the events, not to try to solve the Arab-Jewish conflict," says Nava Inbar, spokeswoman for the official jubilee planning committee.

For the most part, the celebrations will not make any distinctions between Jews, Arabs or any other national group. "The festivities are for all Israelis," says Inbar.

However, there will be parades for Druse and Circassians — who serve in the army, unlike the Moslem and Christian majority among Israeli Arabs. A special event for Beduin in the Negev, many of whom also serve in the army, will be held as well.

One "encounter" between Israeli Jews and Arabs is scheduled to "give expression to the culture and social influence of Arabs in Israel, and to mark the achievements, contributions, problems and dilemmas of Arab citizens," according to the program.

But overall, said a source close to the preparations, "there won't be any affirmative action" — not for Israeli Arabs or any other particular group. Their defeat and mass exile 50 years ago is one reason why Israeli Arabs say they have nothing to celebrate. The discrimination they feel to this day is another reason.

"The military rule over Israeli Arabs is over, but there are still confiscations of our land, especially the land owned by Beduin in the Negev," says al-Kasim. "And there are still Arab 'refugees' inside Israel today — over 40 of our villages remain unrecognized. The plans to 'Judaize the Galilee,' the warnings of a 'demographic prob-

lem' in the Haifa area — how can we see this as anything but racism?"

Another reason why Israeli Arabs are embittered is the near-total collapse of the peace process. Fanous, 39, says the one year when he took part in local Independence Day events was 1994, because he believed the Oslo Accord, signed the previous year, would bring an end to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Since then, his optimism has steadily dwindled. "I'll only be able to celebrate Israel's Independence Day when my relatives and my people in Palestine can celebrate theirs," he says.

Most of Fanous's relatives live in Jordan, Ramallah and Al-Bireh, he says.

His immediate family, which lived in Ramle's Old City, was allowed to remain in 1948 "only because my father was so stubborn," he says. A Protestant minister, his father never discussed the expulsion with his family, until the years before his death in 1995, Fanous says.

"He told us the soldiers went from house to house in the Old City, telling people to leave. But my father told them, 'This is my house, this is my family, and I'm not leaving. I don't care if you kill me, I am with God, I am at His right hand,'" Fanous says. "The soldiers made a gesture like, 'This guy's crazy,' and left him alone, and went on to the other houses."

In his book *Pinkas Sherut*, the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, who was a Hagana commander in the War of Independence, wrote that he agreed with David Ben-Gurion's order to expel the 50,000 Arabs of Ramle and Lod. The Arabs in Lod were "armed and hostile," Rabin wrote, presenting a danger to the Hagana, and they had to be driven away.

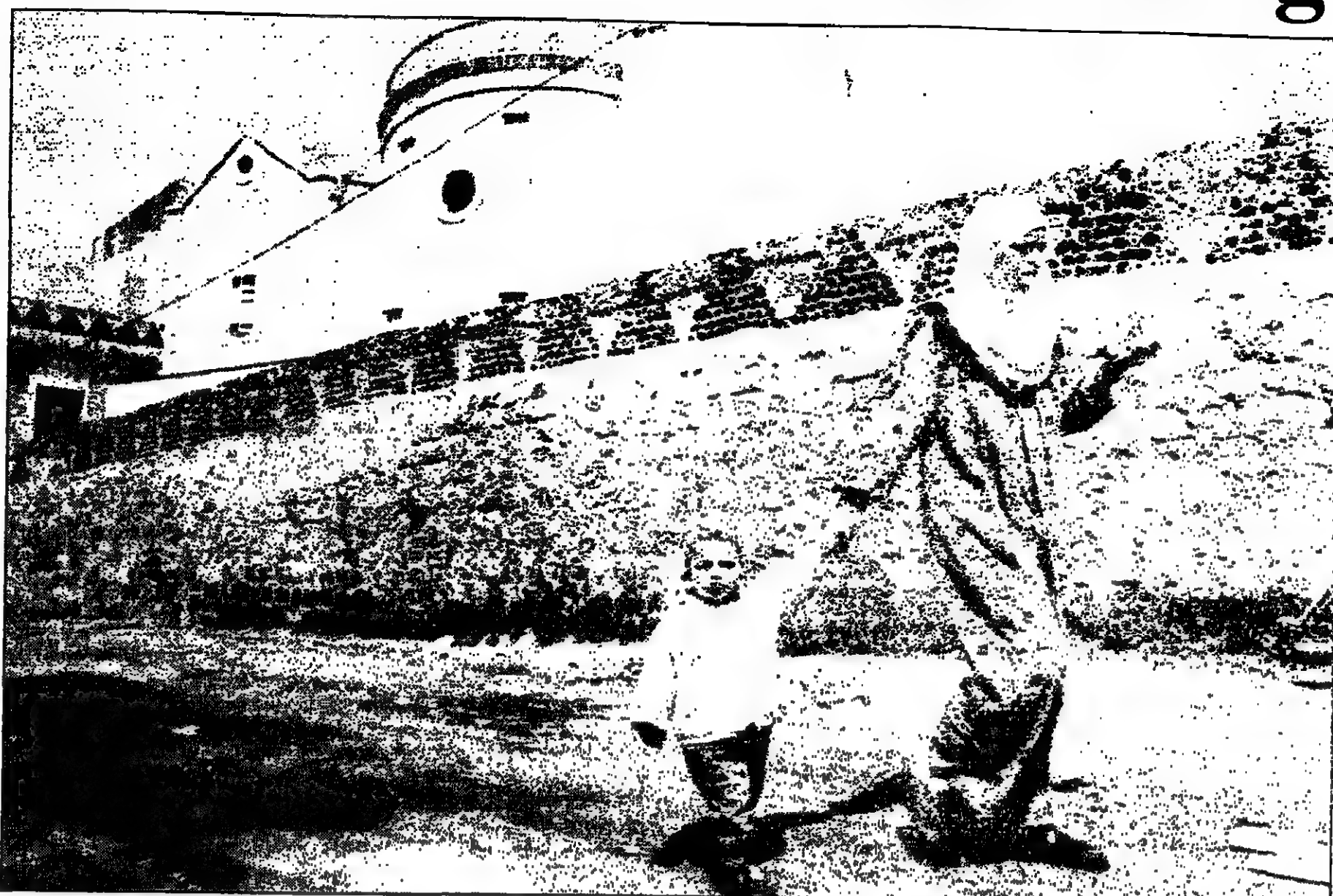
"The inhabitants of Ramle watched, and learned the lesson: Their leaders agreed to be evacuated voluntarily, on condition they were given transportation. Buses took them to Latrun, and from there they were evacuated by the [Arab] Legion," Rabin wrote. The section on Ramle and Lod was censored from Rabin's 1979 book, but later came to light.

Fanous, whose local Arab party, Progress and Equality, is part of the "municipality's Likud-led coalition, says that Arabs in Ramle have gotten better treatment in recent years. Arab neighborhood schools and infrastructure have been upgraded somewhat, and more money and attention have been given to Christian and Moslem holiday events.

At the personal level, he says, "relations between Arabs and Jews here are all right. I even received a *mishloach manot* from some people on Purim. But it's all very superficial. Nobody wants to talk about difficult issues, like 1948."

Ramle city manager Dr. Yagil Levy acknowledges that holding an Independence Day that both Jews and Arabs can celebrate is basically impossible.

"Many local Arab citizens come to City Hall, and are attracted by the festivities in the streets, but this doesn't change the fact that



"Together in pride, together in hope" is the theme of Israel's jubilee. But the 12,000 Arabs in Ramle — and nearly a million in the rest of the country — are not part of this togetherness. (Photograph: Jonathan Bloom)



Michael Fanous, an Arab city councillor in Ramle: "I understand that the Jews are happy over winning their independence, but they have to understand that what happened in 1948... is the reason most of my family is no longer in Ramle."

the holiday speaks principally to the Jewish population," he says.

So it will be when Ramle celebrates its own 50th anniversary on July 7. "For Jews it's the day they conquered the city; for Arabs it's the day they were conquered," Levy says. He assumes that any references to the city's Arab population during the jubilee events will emphasize the positive side of Jewish-Arab relations, and not call attention to the Arabs' defeat.

"The idea is to respect the Arab residents' sensitivities, and not to try to alienate them," he says.

In Ramle's souk, Moshe Maslawi, head of the vendors' association, says he sees no reason why local Arabs couldn't celebrate Independence Day alongside the Jews.

"In Ramle, the Arabs fled," he says. "No one kicked them out. Those who stayed on had it good, and with them we can celebrate." He felt less comfortable, however, with many Israeli Arabs outside of

Ramle, calling them "too extreme."

Maslawi, 52, came to Ramle from Iraq as a boy. "I grew up with Arabs in the Old City, in the 'ghetto,'" he says. "We all get along. We go to each other's homes, to each other's weddings, to each other's funerals," he notes. When his son was killed in a fire at an army base over a decade ago, he says, "there were as many Arabs at the funeral as there were Jews."

"I'm going to go out to celebrate on Independence Day, and any

Arab who wants to join in is welcome," Maslawi says.

Al-Kasim, like Fanous, has not yet made his plans for Independence Day. If he had it his way, al-Kasim says he would declare it "a day of deep soul-searching by both Jews and Arabs."

Fanous says he would do the same. But the soul-searching, he says, would have to start with "the Jews accepting responsibility for the injustices against the Arabs in 1948 and afterward. Otherwise we'll never be able to talk to each other, and we'll never be able to go forward together."



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PLANNING U.S. TRAVEL THIS SUMMER

The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem advises those planning travel to the U.S. this summer to apply early for U.S. visas, renewal of U.S. passports, and registration of U.S. citizen children. The increase in travel during the summer months often leads to long lines and extended processing time. To lessen the possibility of long waits or delayed travel plans, travelers are advised to apply before May 1.

All consular services are provided at 27 Nabhus Road. Visa services and registration of U.S. citizen children are available, Monday through Friday (except the last Friday of every month) 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. (The fee for a visa application is now \$45 or NIS 171.)

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UN TENDERS
THE UNITED NATIONS TRUCE SUPERVISION ORGANIZATION (UNTSO)

Has a requirement for the following services, at its premises, in Government House, Jerusalem:

- Cleaning Services: bid documents will be available at the site tour to be held on Friday, 27 March 1998;
- Grounds Maintenance & Gardening Services: Request for proposals will be available at the site tour to be held on Monday, 30 March 1998;
- Buildings Maintenance & Repairs: Request for proposals will be available at the site tour to be held on Tuesday, 31 March 1998.

Contractors interested in the above tenders will meet on the designated days at 10 am, at the Main Gate of UNTSO HQ, Government House (at the end of the Sherover Promenade). PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE SITE TOURS BY TELEPHONE NO. 5687312 TO 16

4. Garbage Disposal - bidding documents may be collected from the Main Gate, Government House, from 27 to 31 March 1998.

Deadline for the submission of bids: Mon., 20 Apr. 1998, 14.00 hrs. For tel. queries, please call Tel. 5687312 to 16, from 8 to 10 am.

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The case of the 2,000-year-old copyright

Is a scholar's work ever not his own — when he reconstructs an ancient text, for example?

Abraham Rabinovich describes the latest twist in a case — now before the Supreme Court — whose origins go back to 150 BCE

A fascinating case," said Judge Aharon Barak to the opposing attorneys seated below him Tuesday as he settled into his high-backed chair. "Why don't you try settling it between yourselves?"

The matter of the Dead Sea scroll known as MMT had reached the Supreme Court.

Barak seemed intrigued at the bewitching legal aspects raised by the 2,000-year-old document, but at the same time hesitant about leaving footprints of precedent in an area perhaps best left undisturbed.

It has been five years since a landmark decision in Jerusalem District Court by Judge Dalia Dorner in the case — involving the ancient document, a shy Negev scholar and a Washington publisher on a crusade — provided fodder for legal journals in the US and for copyright lawyers specializing in that most wondrous of human mysteries, creativity.

The case had its origins about 150 BCE, when a religious innovator, believed to have been the founder of the Dead Sea sect, the Teacher of Righteousness, wrote a letter. Scholars believe the addressee may have been the Hasmonean ruler in Jerusalem whom the sect would later dub "the Wicked Priest." The letter cites the reasons that the sect had broken away from mainstream Judaism and spells out the religious practices that separated the two groups.

When the Dead Sea Scrolls were found in the caves of Qumran half a century ago, six copies of the letter were uncovered, the only letter among the 800 documents found. All six copies, however, were fragmented, and even when all 70 pieces were put together and fitted into a composite text, there were still large chunks missing. For three decades, the document remained undeciphered and its nature unrecognized. The missing

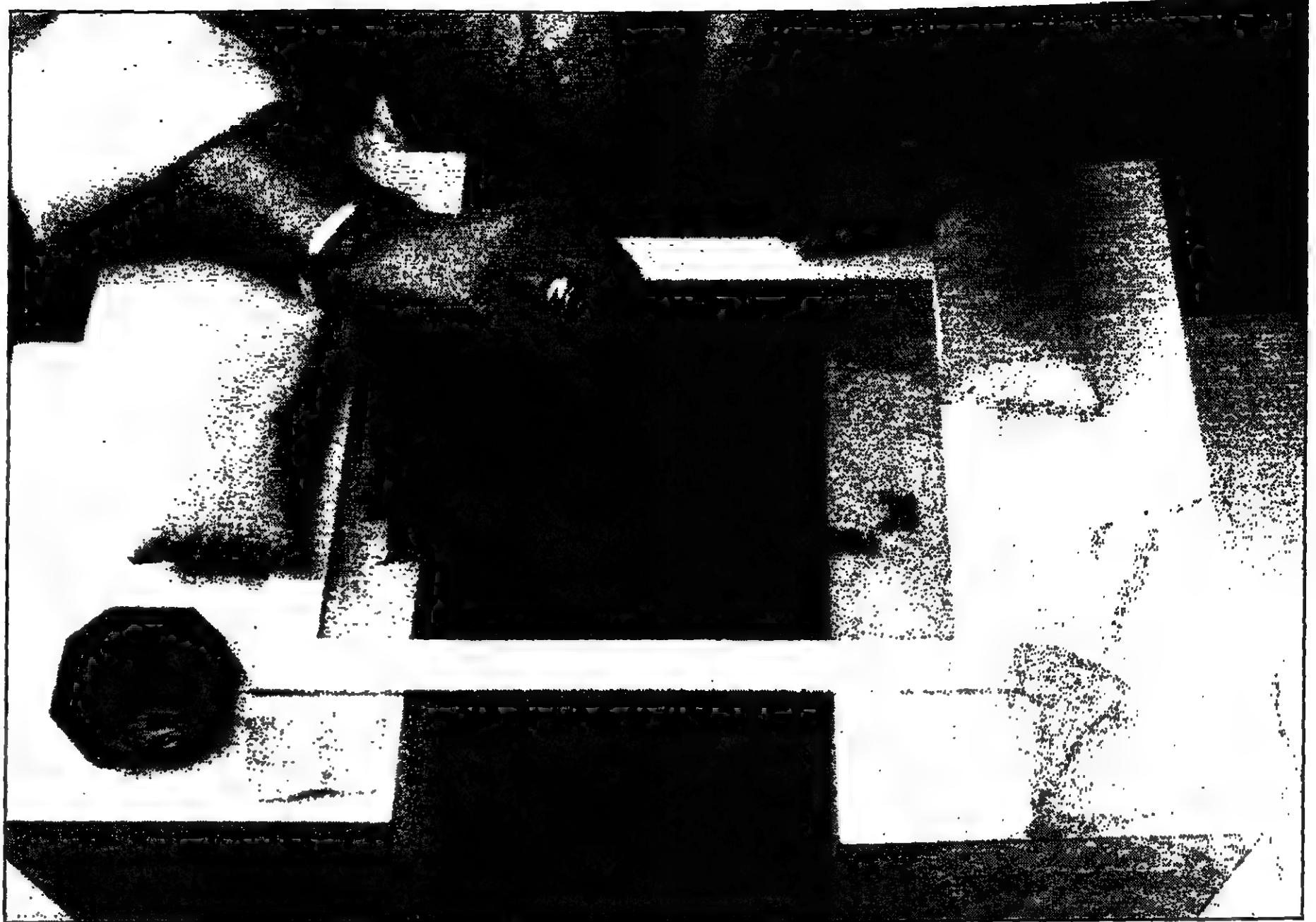
portions and the document's esoteric nature proved too intimidating for the international team of scholars then dealing with the scrolls.

In the early 1980s, a young Israeli scholar, Elisha Qimron of Ben-Gurion University, was asked to tackle the job. The painstaking task involved not only piecing together the fragments and reading the often obscured script, but filling in the gaps. This would mean adding up to about 40 percent of the original, with conjecture about what probably had been written. This educated guesswork was based on Qimron's intimate knowledge of the language and concepts of the sect and of a broad spectrum of other relevant Jewish religious writings.

It took him 11 years to complete, but the document proved to be one of the most important of the Dead Sea scrolls, providing insight into the sect's origins and beliefs. The name Qimron gave it was *Mikzat Ma'aseh haTorah* ("Some of the Precepts of the Torah"), a phrase used in the letter. In short, MMT.

Before publishing his reconstruction, eagerly awaited in the scholarly world which had been given hints about its general nature by Qimron at an international congress, he sent copies to four distinguished colleagues abroad to obtain their comments. One of these copies was apparently photocopied without Qimron's knowledge and bootleg copies began to circulate. One was published in a Polish scholarly newsletter.

Sometime afterwards it was also published by Hershel Shanks, editor of *Biblical Archaeology Review*, as part of his foreword to a book containing facsimile renditions of Dead Sea Scrolls. In that foreword, Shanks attacked scroll scholars for attempting to keep exclusive control of the material and for being too slow in publishing it. His publication of MMT



The painfully delicate task of piecing together ancient scroll fragments is often compounded by the need to fill in gaps — which can amount to almost half the text. (Sando Mondria)

was not only unauthorized but made no mention of Qimron as being responsible for the document's reconstruction.

Infuriated by what he considered the theft of his work, Qimron sued. In the Jerusalem District Court, his lawyers claimed infringement of Qimron's copyright to MMT and deprivation of the academic recognition due him. This, in turn, they said, significantly diminished earnings from publications and lectures.

Qimron himself said he had invested 15,000 hours of work in the document, the most important labor of his life. "These people did it because they thought I wouldn't sue," said the soft-spoken scholar. "They're rich and influential people and they don't fear me."

Shanks told the court that he had been unaware that the document which reached him was, in fact, a laborious reconstruction. However, when Judge Dorner asked whether he would have published it even if he had known, he replied "correct."

In her ruling, Dorner found for Qimron, ordering Shanks to pay him NIS 20,000 in statutory damages, the maximum a judge can award in lieu of real damages, and NIS 80,000 for mental anguish, believed to be the highest such award in a copyright case in an Israeli court. For both sides, however, the principle involved was more important than the money. Legal experts said that Dorner's ruling set a precedent by stipulating that copyright can apply to a reconstructed text.

In the appeal to the Supreme Court, Shanks's attorney, Prof. Dov Frimer, contends that Dorner's ruling has had a "chilling effect" on scholarship by threatening to inhibit the fruitful give-and-take of academic research with copyright restrictions that create intellectual walls instead of scholarly building blocks.

The issue has aroused considerable interest among American lawyers and academics dealing with intellectual property, as the subject is called, since it breaks new ground that could be cited as precedent, albeit non-binding, in US courts as well. At the Supreme Court hearing this week in Jerusalem, attorney Edwin Freedman representing the Committee of Concerned Intellectual Property Educators, an American organization, asked for permission to submit a brief in the Shanks-Qimron case as *amicus curiae*, a friend of the court. It is the first time that such a status, common in the US, is being sought in an Israeli court. Barak said the court would consider the motion.

At issue is whether Qimron can claim that the reconstruction of a text originally written by someone else is an act of creativity that entitles him to copyright.

"In the past," said Shanks's attorney Frimer in a courthouse interview, "the standard for awarding copyright was sweat-of-the-brow, that is, the labor involved. This is still the standard in Jewish law. But Anglo-American law, in what is known as the *Feist* case, has adopted a new standard — creativity. This is now accepted worldwide. Although Judge Dorner referred to the creativity aspect, I believe her decision was based on sweat-of-the-brow, the amount of time Qimron had invested."

Said Frimer's associate, Yonina Hoffman: "Qimron did not create anything on his own. There is no authorship here. He discovered facts. You can't copyright facts. He had to have the skill and knowledge to know where to look for the

clues, but he didn't create what the clues led him to. Another scholar with the same knowledge would have arrived at the same facts."

To illustrate the extent to which Qimron had been creative, Qimron's attorney, Jakob Melcer, suggested to the court this week a hypothesis in which a complete Latin translation of MMT had been found, including the parts missing from the Hebrew version. "If Qimron had only filled in the missing parts by translating from the Latin version back into

the Hebrew used at Qumran — and he's the world's leading expert on the language and grammar of the sect — he would be entitled to copyright, because translations are entitled to copyright. But what he actually did, recreating the original text from nothing, was incredibly more creative."

Faced with the formidable problematics of rendering fair judgment on the issue, Judge Barak, president of the Supreme Court, suggested that the two sides come to a mediated agree-

ment that would not only obviate the need for a Supreme Court ruling, but would also abrogate the decision handed down by Judge Dorner.

Barak's suggestion was politely declined, leaving it up to him and his two associates in the case, Judges Dorit Beinisch and Yaacov Turkel, to decide within the next few months whether Qimron is entitled to copyright to MMT or whether copyright, long lapsed, should go to the Teacher of Righteousness.

'If Qimron had only filled in the missing parts by translating ... he would be entitled to copyright. But what he actually did, recreating the original text from nothing, was incredibly more creative.'

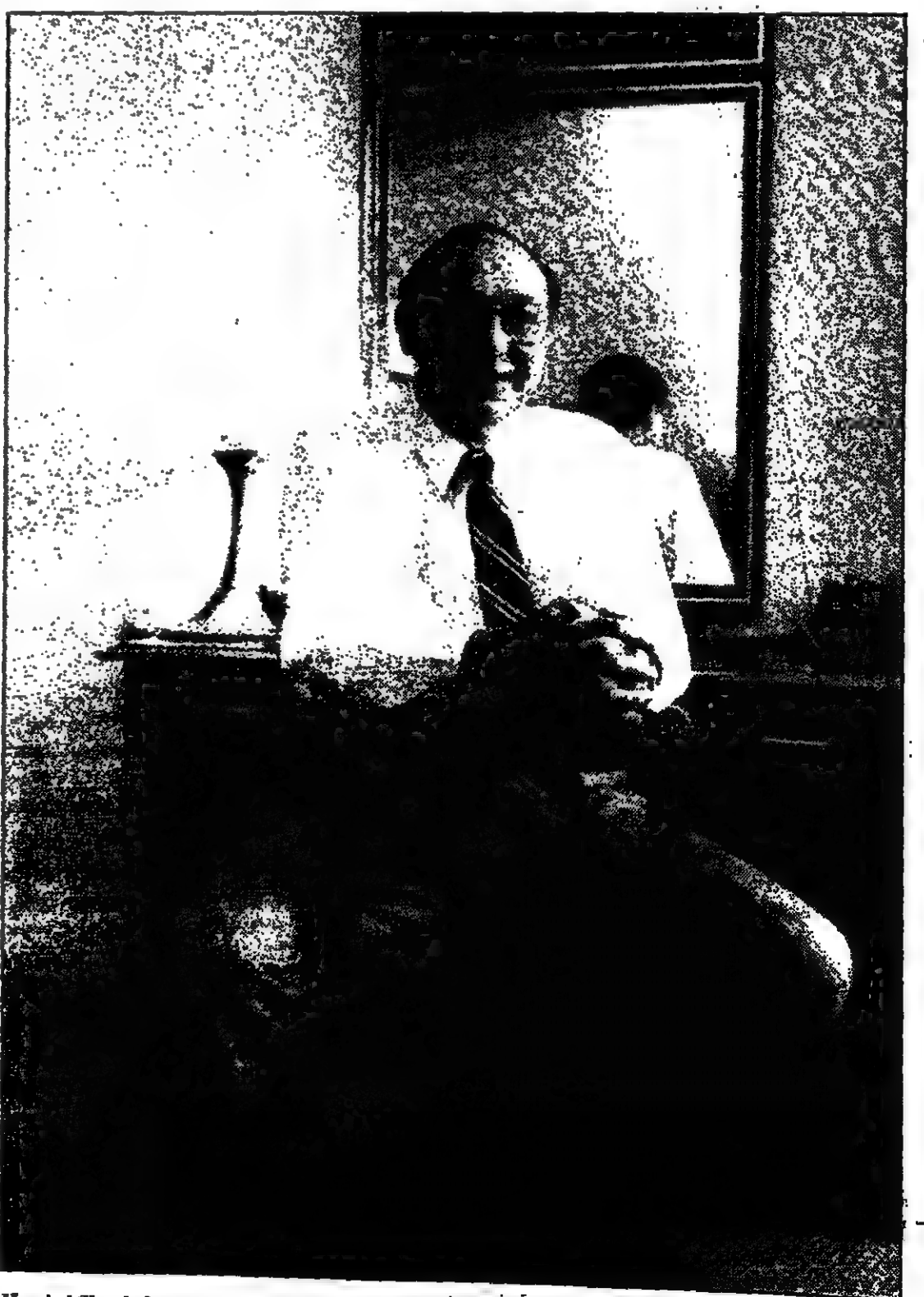
— Qimron's attorney, Jakob Melcer

'Qimron did not create anything on his own. There is no authorship here. He discovered facts. You can't copyright facts. Another scholar with the same knowledge would have arrived at the same facts.'

— Yonina Hoffman, attorney for BAR editor Hershel Shanks



Qimron said he had invested 15,000 hours of work in the document, the most important labor of his life. "They did it because they thought I wouldn't sue," he said. (Sarik Uzdely)



Hershel Shanks's publication of MMT was not only unauthorized but made no mention of Qimron as being responsible for the document's reconstruction. (Ariel Jerolimski)

Handwritten text: "JPM 150"

The sins of the father

Why did a Tel Aviv judge order a father to pay NIS 900,000 to his three children? Dan Izenberg explores a precedent-setting ruling that gives new meaning to the cost of neglect

In retrospect, given the decision handed down by Tel Aviv District Court Judge Henia Stein, it is hard to understand why none of the Jerusalem lawyers approached by David, Sarah and Avi Amin 10 years ago would agree to take up their suit against their father. Nene except for Shimon Feinberg.

Last week, the decade-long saga ended, for the time being, when Judge Stein awarded damages of NIS 900,000 to the three children. Stein's ruling in favor of the children, who had sued their father, Yitzhak, for negligence, is so cut and dried, and the deeds of the father so startling, that one might think any lawyer would consider it a sure winner.

But in 1988, when the embittered, problematic, and penniless children approached one Jerusalem lawyer after another, all but Shimon Feinberg turned them away. In addition to the fact that they could not pay any fee, their idea to exact financial compensation for the emotional and psychological — rather than physical — damage they had sustained by their father seemed far-fetched, if not hopeless.

Feinberg asked Shimon Kochli, with whom he shared office space, to join him in the case. Later, when Feinberg quit his practice to become a Jerusalem Magistrate's Court judge, Kochli took over. He was so moved by the plight of the three siblings — today in their early thirties — that he had helped cover the costs of their battle out of his own pocket.

Kochli is now trying to round up the NIS 12,000 that must be paid to the bailiff's office before it will execute the court's decision.

Stein's ruling sets a legal precedent here. Pinhas Shifman, professor of family law at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and dean of the Ramat Gan Law College, regards "the extension of the court's protection of family members by awarding damages as an important arena of activity. One of the functions of family law is to protect the weaker members from severe emotional or other types of injury." The ruling "sets a precedent of international importance," he added. The case will now go to the High Court of Justice, after Yitzhak and Hadassah Amin announced they would appeal the decision.

The tragedy known as the life of David, Sarah and Avi Amin officially began in October 1965, 40 days after Avi was born, when their mother, Mazal, committed suicide. David was two years old at the time, and Sarah, one. Their father, Yitzhak, who lived in Matzliach, a moshav near Ramle, could not cope with the children and asked his mother to look after them. But the mother, who was ill and had a mentally retarded son at home, soon asked the welfare authorities to take the three off her hands.

Four years after Mazal's death, Yitzhak Amin married Esther, a divorcee with children of her own. At Esther's insistence, the two made a pact to begin a new life in which none of the children from their previous marriages would be included.

From that day, Yitzhak Amin refused to receive his children at home, visit them in their foster homes and boarding schools or have anything to do with them. "Not a day goes by when I don't cry," said David Amin in an interview with Yediot Aharanot last July. "Sometimes I sit and curse my mother, curse God, curse everyone. If I ever get the chance to speak to my father, I'll tell him exactly what I think of him. Without violence. Without anger. I don't want to have anything to do with him, but it's important for me that he know exactly what happened to us and how we feel."

In their testimony during the trial, the children related that

when they came to visit him on days off from boarding school, he would chase them away and force them to sleep out in the orchards until it was time for them to return to school.

"From the time he abandoned me until I reached the age of 18 and beyond, my father prevented me from visiting him in his home in Moshav Matzliach or any other place, even when my brothers and I appealed to him in person when we were given days off from the boarding schools and foster families we lived with," each of the three siblings wrote in their affidavits to the court. "Sometimes, my father's refusal and expulsion were accompanied by attacks, beatings and other cruel deeds aimed at us," Sarah said. "Throughout the time that I was in boarding school, he did not come to visit me. I would come to him, and he and his wife would throw me out."

Avraham Rahamim, a social worker, was one of several professionals who corroborated the claims of the children. "From childhood, when the children lived in various institutions, the father totally ignored them," Rahamim wrote in a letter dated September 5, 1978. "All the efforts of the department to get him involved in their care and maintenance failed. Mr. Amin's second wife refuses to let them into their house, so that for years, there has been no connection between the father and his children," he said.

"If I had to rank the severity of this case from one to 10, with 10 being most severe, I would give the case of the Amin children a 10," testified Yoel Ben-Yehuda, former head of social services in the Gezer Regional Council.

The unspeakable deprivation they suffered as children has shaped their adult lives. During their school years they were often in trouble with the authorities because of trans-

gencies, drugs or minor felonies. Sarah married a drug addict and gave birth to five children, all of whom have been taken away from her by welfare authorities. Today, she is homeless and wanted by police. David, who married an invalid, beat her and was eventually thrown out of the house, now lives in the streets. Avi, father of three children, has a record of domestic and work-related violence and has been in one job to another.

Amin denied his children's charges in court and in an interview with The Jerusalem Post. "This is the first time that a person is being forced to pay damages for not stroking his child or saying good morning or good night to him," he said. "The state is to blame for what happened. It took responsibility for them and so it is the guilty party."

Amin added that it was not true the children did not have a home to go to. "I went to visit them and they came to stay with my mother on alternate weekends," he said. "I don't know what else one needs to do." But he did not deny the children's claims that they had to sleep out in the orchards when they came on leave. "Didn't they already have a place to sleep? What about the institutions they were living in?"

He denied that his behavior was the cause of his children's misery. "They're not little kids anymore," he said. "There are so many divorces and so many kids who grow up in institutions and come out okay. Not everything has to be daddy, daddy."

The key question in the case, according to Judge Stein, was whether or not "the father had a legal obligation to bestow a paternal relationship beyond providing for [his children's] material needs or whether, as he claimed in his summary, as far as bestowing warmth and love is concerned, we are talking about a moral obligation."

Laying the groundwork

Nehemia Ben-David, legal spokeswoman for the Israel Tax Authority, said that, for children, international law is not binding. "The law of the state of Israel is the only law that applies," she said. "The law of the state of Israel is the only law that applies."

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ered when thinking ahead. "The decision took into account that the family unit was destroyed. In other cases, it might be possible to save the family. It was also very hard on the father. NIS 900,000 is a lot of money."

Ben-David criticized Stein's argument that one of the reasons for awarding damages to the children was to protect the public coffers — that is to say, that if the father would not pay out of his own pocket for the damages he caused, the state would have to pay to help the children cope with life as a result of the emotional injury they sustained.

"This argument is an interesting one, but I don't think it should be the central one," she said. "She also said that Stein did not address the failure of the welfare agencies to consider putting the children up for adoption rather than sending them to foster homes and boarding schools and leaving the father as their official guardian."

In all, however, the precedent-setting decision created a good foundation for building an even better system to help children deal with physical or emotional damages caused by their parents, Ben-David concluded. —D.I.

tion and one cannot impose feelings and demand money for the lack thereof."

Her answer was unequivocal. "The responsibility for devoted parental care and cultivation are not moral obligations only," she wrote, "and do not end with the provision of the dependent's material needs. This obligation, which is a legal one, includes the necessity to display care and feeling for the children and to show at least a minimum of interest in them."

In response to Amin's defense of his actions, Stein wrote that "the cruel dissociation of the father from his children in order to look after his own interests (such as his second marriage) and to abandon all responsibility for his children, in total disregard for their needs and their pleas and cries for attention, care and connection, is neglect of the worst kind and cannot be considered, by any stretch of the imagination, the behavior of a reasonable man."

Stein accepted two of the three accusations of civil wrong that Kochli, the children's lawyer, leveled against Amin. Kochli charged that the father was guilty of negligence in that he had not taken the necessary precautions to prevent emotional injury to his children and that he had failed to observe laws which govern the obligations of parents to their children.

In accepting these arguments, Stein referred to local laws, judicial decisions and judicial literature to ascertain the obligations of parents to their children. She noted that since there were no damage suits until now, the judicial cases she relied on referred to legal battles between parents and the authorities over adoption.

In one example, Stein referred to an adoption trial involving the biological parents of a 14-month-old baby who had been hospitalized for eight months and then sent to a foster home. The parents refused to visit her or pay any part of her upkeep.

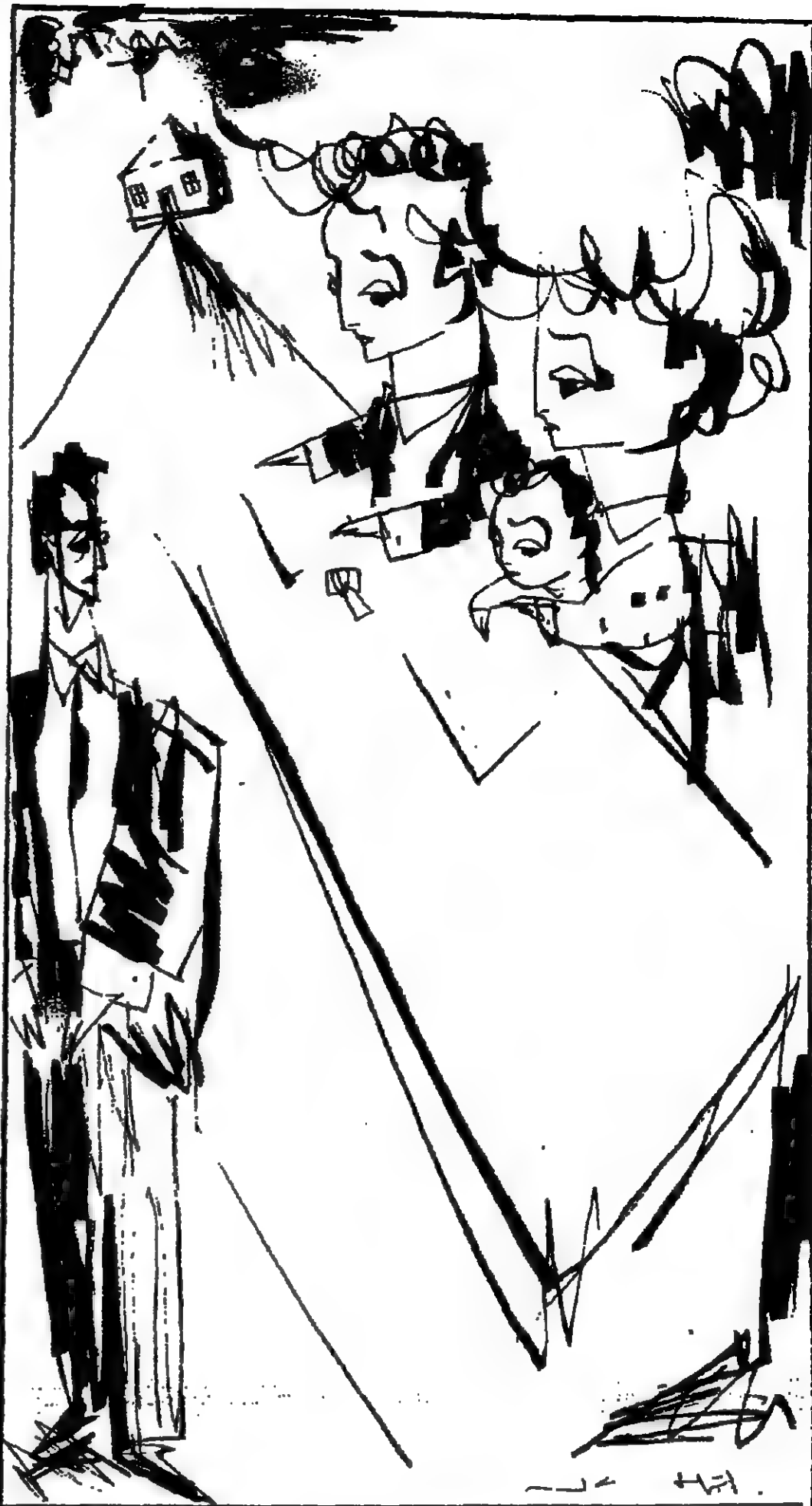
"In the case before us," the judge wrote, "the neglect of the fundamental obligations of parents to their dependent children, obligations that even the poorest of the poor can fulfill in their entirety with eagerness and devotion, is all too obvious. These are obligations which are no more than the biological instincts which are found even among animals and birds."

"The idea here is not [the failure] to supply material needs but primarily the failure to fulfill the basic obligation of personal concern and care for the girl, the cultivation of family ties, giving [her] the sense that she is their daughter and that they love her and care for her..." In short, the display of fatherly compassion and maternal love without which a child's development is stunted.

Even after Amin's guilt was established and Stein ruled that financial compensation was appropriate for this type of injury, there was still the question of whether the court might decide, for reasons of broader policy, not to award damages.

At the beginning of the trial, Kochli and Feinberg were worried that the case would fall on grounds of policy rather than substance, said Kochli.

They had reason to worry. There are many arguments in favor of rejecting a claim for damages even when the particular case seems justified. Awarding damages could lead to excessive state intervention in the private lives of families. It could destroy any hope of rehabilitating the family. It could undermine parental authority. It could lead to family scans or to a conspiracy between one parent and the child against the other parent. It also contains the potential of the "slippery slope" in that it could invite an avalanche of lawsuits in cases not nearly as severe as that of the Amins.



Aware of the ground-breaking importance of the case, Stein asked the attorney-general for his opinion. "There is no way to block children's lawsuits against their parents as long as their claim is that the parents acted with malice and not for their well-being," he wrote.

Stein also surveyed the legal approach to this question in the US. She found that at the turn of the century, three landmark decisions established parental immunity in the treatment of their children. In one of the cases, a daughter had filed for damages after her father raped her.

As time went on, however, and public opinion turned against the immunity principle, the courts began to make exceptions to the rule. In 1963, the immunity principle was rejected outright for the first time by the Wisconsin Supreme Court, when it ruled in favor of awarding damages to a child who was injured after his father allowed him to ride on the edge of a tractor. Fifteen years later, two of five Oregon Supreme Court judges ruled in favor of damages for children who sued their mother for having caused them emotional and psychological harm. A third judge, who voted with the majority against the suit, said that

in more severe circumstances, he would have voted in favor.

According to Kochli, the most persuasive reason for deciding not to award damages would have been the "slippery slope" argument. But Stein rejected it. "If injury was caused to the children as a result of the malicious conduct of their parents or as a result of deliberate neglect of their well-being, there is no reason to deny such children the remedy of compensation which is available to anyone who has suffered injury in accordance with the Damages Laws," she wrote.

Kochli, of course, was delighted with the decision, if not with the amount of damages awarded. "The ruling is appropriate," he

said. "It fits like a glove. But the amount of money awarded was relatively low. Let's put it this way. If the suit had been filed against an insurance company, the court would have awarded a much higher sum. But then again, Amin is not an insurance company."

He said his greatest difficulty in the case was finding witnesses who could testify about the children's childhood years. Avi, the youngest, turned 18 in 1983.

Meanwhile, Yitzhak Amin is defiant and unrepentant and is determined to fight on. "They [the children] did this to bury me," he said.

"Everything will come to light [in the appeal]. Everything will change."



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Greetings and introduction by
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Mike Horton

Two versions, with veracity a victim

Dry Bones

He says it was nothing more than a friendly hug, and perhaps a kiss on the forehead intended to comfort a woman in despair.

She says it was a sexual advance, surprising and unwelcome: a hug that was "more than platonic," a reach for her breast, a hand that grasped hers and placed it on his groin.

A chasm of difference separates the version of events that US President Clinton and Kathleen E. Willey, a one-time fund-raiser for the president, give to describe their meeting that November afternoon four years ago.

Because only the two of them were there, it is impossible to know who's telling the truth. But in searching for clues within the testimony and information that each has laid out so far, there is evidence that both the White House and Willey have on occasion either changed their story or offered new accounts that contradict statements they've made in the past.

Neither of them has revised their basic description of what took place that afternoon, but if either Clinton or Willey offered up the public record of what they've said thus far as evidence of their veracity, both would have to explain nagging inconsistencies.

For example, Clinton said in a January court deposition taken in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case, that he "vividly" recalled meeting Willey on November 29, 1993, the day the alleged incident occurred. Five months earlier, his lawyer, Robert S. Bennett, told a magazine interviewer that the

Kathleen Willey, the latest woman to accuse US President Bill Clinton of making unwanted sexual advances, could face a credibility problem — the same as the president, Amy Goldstein reports



He said, she said: A chasm of discrepancy separates the version of events that US President Clinton and Kathleen E. Willey give to describe their meeting four years ago. (Photos: AP)

president had "no specific recollection of meeting (Willey) in the Oval Office."

Willey, on the other hand, said in her deposition in the Jones case, that, aside from three Oval Office meetings and one telephone call, she had never communicated with

Clinton. In fact, she sent him a series of handwritten notes and letters, as revealed this week by copies of the correspondence that were released by the White House in an apparent attempt to undercut her credibility.

Now that more information — much of it in their own words —

has become available about the day in question, there is an opportunity to sift through the credibility on both Clinton and Willey.

It has been nearly a week since large portions of the president's 218-deposition and Willey's 150-page deposition were made public

by Jones' lawyers. And Willey has granted a prime time television interview on 60 Minutes.

Snippets come, too, from lawyers, other current and former White House officials, and court records in Richmond, Va., where Willey lives, that relate to her efforts to fend off a large monetary claim against her by former clients of her late husband, Edward E. Willey, a lawyer mired in legal and financial troubles, committed suicide the same day Kathleen Willey allegedly was groped by the president. He had not known of her meeting.

On the core elements of her story, Willey has been consistent in her deposition and her television interview. In both places, she says the alleged incident took place on the same date and in the same place. She describes the same elements of the alleged sexual advance.

And both times she said she reacted by pushing him away.

But Willey has given different accounts of what she told Clinton that day about her family's financial and legal predicament. Just days before, Willey has said, her husband told her he had taken money from two clients and demanded that she co-sign a written promise to repay the \$274,000 quickly.

In her deposition and her television interview, Willey said she had shared those problems with the president during the Oval Office meeting. She told the president that she and her husband "were having a family crisis and my husband had asked me to sign a note for a large amount of money two weeks prior to this," her deposition says.

But in a 1995 court document related to the clients' ongoing efforts to claim their money from her, Willey's lawyer said she "rode the train to Washington (that day)." She did not talk with anyone at the White House about the money, the paper or the threats.

Perhaps the most stark discrepancies involve what Willey has said under oath about how often and for what purposes she had been in touch with Clinton. During the deposition, she was asked whether she had "ever communicated" with Clinton at any time starting with his 1992 presidential campaign, aside from the three Oval Office meetings and a single telephone call.

"To the best of my recollection, no," she replied. In fact, the letters and phone logs released by the White House this week show that she placed two calls to him before the alleged incident and eight afterward, and that she sent him 15 letters. Moreover, Willey told 60 Minutes that she had received two telephone calls from Clinton in October 1992, when he was in Virginia for a campaign debate.

Jones' lawyers also asked her whether she "asked them to keep you in mind concerning possible federal employment." Willey replied that she had not. But the correspondence shows that she asked the president to be considered for various jobs, including an ambassadorship and positions with his reelection campaign and the Democratic National Committee.

As for discrepancies in Clinton's version of events, his lawyer Bennett said last August in a Newsweek magazine article where the Willey allegations surfaced publicly, that the president may have been consoling her around the time of her husband's death. In fact, Willey would not learn her husband had killed himself until the morning after her Oval Office meeting, so she could not have mentioned that to Clinton.

In that article Bennett said his client had "no specific recollection" of the meeting with Willey and that there was no record of her entering the Oval Office. Both Clinton and Willey have testified that they met there three times. Clinton further said in his deposition that he remembered the first meeting "very well," because "she was quite agitated" that day.

Current and former White House aides also have given varying accounts as to when Willey changed departments within the White House.

Former White House Counsel Lloyd Cutler said last week that she arrived in the counsel's office in November 1993, although she was not hired into a paying job until the following spring. Cutler's accounting would mean that Willey's transfer would have taken place before she ever met with Clinton, and thus did not represent some kind of payback in exchange for her silence about the alleged incident — a theory being pursued in the criminal investigation of independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr.

These inconsistencies notwithstanding, women's groups who shied away from earlier allegations, seem to be giving more credibility to Willey than to Clinton's previous accusers, Monica Lewinsky and Jones.

Patricia Ireland, head of the National Organization for Women, said that Willey's allegations were putting Clinton into "very deep water."

(The Washington Post with contributions from the AP)



GRAPEVINE

By GREER FAY CASHMAN



At the launch of 'Israel's Jubilee Anniversary' (from left): Gilat Ankori, editor Chaim Yavin and Ilanit Gaon. (Isaac Harari)

One for the books

It was definitely Middle East Mean Time for the launching of Israel's Jubilee Anniversary, one of several recent volumes reviewing the state's first 50 years. The invitation was for 1 p.m. but the ceremony did not get under way till 2:30, by which time many of the guests had left. But late or not, for editor Chaim Yavin, whose television ratings are on a downspin, it was a great moment of triumph. Speaker after speaker lavished praise on him.

Yavin himself was full of admiration for Zahir Bar-Lev, the relatively small Jerusalem publishing house competing against giants such as Yediot Aharanot and Ma'ariv which have also put out anniversary books.

The JJA book is presented in the form of a diary with a 365-day calendar of important events which took place during different years on any given date.

The audience in the Knesset auditorium was what Education Minister Yitzhak Levy described as a "human mosaic" — personalities from the world of entertainment such as Haim Topol, who drew portraits of some 120 of the personalities in the book, Gilat Ankori, Ilanit and Yehoram Gaon. MKs in attendance included Yossi Sarid, Dan Tichon, Rehavam Ze'evi, Benny Elon and Naomi Blumenthal.

Also present were Ziv Birger, the veteran director of the Jerusalem Book Fair; Eliezer Shmueli, the former director-general of the Education Ministry; Pina Albeck, former director of the Civil Division of the Justice Ministry, and many others whose footsteps are firmly imprinted in the history of modern Israel.

ANYONE who expected Lev Leviev, the chairman of Africa Israel, which bought out the Gottex swimwear company, to exert his religious influence over the designs was delightfully surprised by the first Gottex collection under the Africa Israel banner. If anything, the collection was more glamorous, sophisticated and sexy than some of those designed by Gottex founder Leah Gottlieb and her daughter Judith Gottfried. Responding to the tremendous ovation from buyers and the fashion press, a beaming Gottlieb said, "We were Gottex and we'll

be Gottex." Two of Leviev's four daughters, Zvia who has been appointed a director of the company, and Ruthie, accompanied their mother, Olga, to the show. All agreed that there were so many beautiful pieces, it was impossible to choose. The Levievs have a swimming pool at home and Olga Leviev swims nearly every day. Anat Weiss, Africa Israel's spokeswoman, tried to keep reporters away from the Levievs, but with little success.

Ramat Aviv Gimmel star Gilat Ankori, whose fashion company in the TV series is also under threat of a takeover, was asked to draw a parallel between the on-screen and off-screen situations. "I want Africa Israel to come to Opal," she said. "We need the cash infusion."

THERE were so many guests at the residence of Hungarian Ambassador Istvan Csejtei and his wife, Idiko, for the 150th anniversary of Hungary's Revolution and War of Independence that the early exit of the diplomatic corps went almost unnoticed. Many of the diplomats attending had also been invited by Greek ambassador Sotiris Varousakis to hear magnificent Greek singer Savina Yannatou, who just happened to be celebrating her birthday. Her accompanying musicians, who usually play much more elaborate music, saluted the occasion with a rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday."

JERUSALEMITES Blanche and Harris Galko have just returned from Canada, where they attended the birthdays of both the oldest and youngest members of their family.

They were outside the hospital room in Montreal when their fifth and youngest daughter, Sharon, gave birth to their ninth grandchild, Hannah Etiana Galko Cohen. Then they went on to Toronto to participate in the 100th anniversary celebration of Hannah's great-grandmother, Nancy Galko who, in addition to many gifts, received congratulatory messages from the Queen of England and the Prime Minister of Canada.

Interviewed on her 100th birthday by a Toronto journalist, Galko was asked: "To what do you attribute your longevity?" To which she replied: "To breathing."

SRULIK



50



by DOSH

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

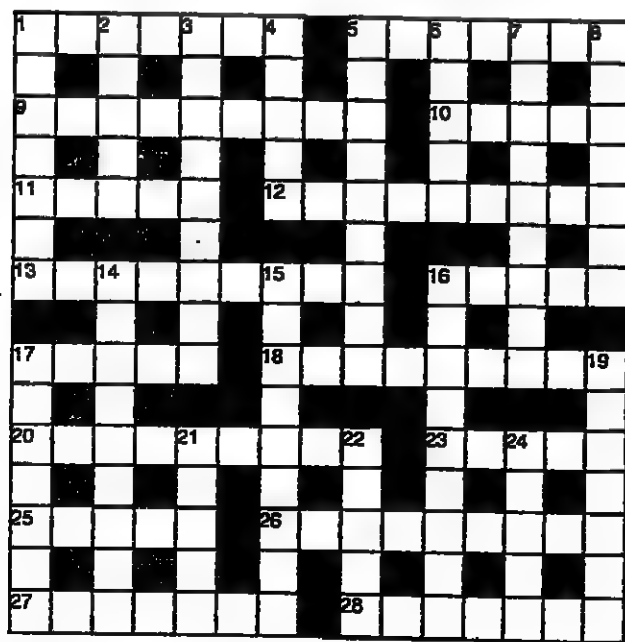
ACROSS

- 1 Press it angrily—again and again! (7)
- 5 It's hard hearted to ring us about nothing (7)
- 9 Land where one might feel a bit of a goose perhaps (9)
- 10 Look inside but it's not here, not here! (5)
- 11 Expressions of thanks and disgust are not allowed (5)
- 12 These sorts of integrals have three sides (9)
- 13 Kind of parcel, not a container of fuel (8,3)
- 16 Feature about a series (5)
- 17 Office of the Frenchman is back in animal house (5)
- 18 Restored gown found lying in the grass (9)
- 20 Brought about by packing too tightly the work of young vandal (9)

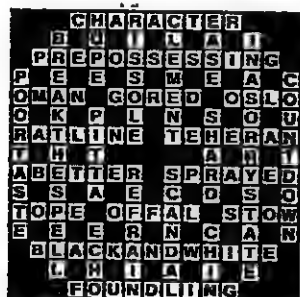
- 23 Quietly departed with the silver (5)
- 25 Bury the doctor who had no sense of direction (5)
- 26 Begin to make a speech about one spirit (9)
- 27 Animal found by a stream in part of India (7)
- 28 First woman took a breather on mountain (7)

DOWN

- 1 The time to retail is when the miners are out (3,4)
- 2 Compass point in the lower Humber (5)
- 3 Very frosty about initially having no record of fossil footprints (9)
- 4 Fish out after the first two trawlers (5)



SOLUTIONS



Yesterday's Quick Solution
ACROSS: 7 Prince, 8 Phillip, 10 Neglect, 11 Dacha, 12 Esau, 13 Bruce, 14 Penel, 15 Zeta, 22 Trill, 23 Entasy, 24 Mahout, 25 Bureau.
DOWN: 1 Spencer, 2 Gingham, 3 Aired, 4 Vindict, 5 Elect, 6 Speak, 9 Stargazer, 14 Zealous, 15 Decayed, 16 Papyrus, 19 Stamp, 20 Right, 21 Issa.

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Bury (5)
- 4 Enormous (5)
- 10 Type of bean (7)
- 11 Disney deer (5)
- 12 Greek letter (5)
- 13 Lodgers (7)
- 15 Require (4)
- 17 Quickness (5)
- 19 French town (5)
- 22 Nonsense poet (4)
- 25 Inquiry into a death (7)
- 27 Large farm (5)
- 29 Crane (5)
- 30 Bill (7)
- 31 Very happy (5)
- 32 Armada (5)

DOWN

- 2 Courage (5)
- 3 Captivate (5)
- 5 British bird (5)
- 6 Calendar (7)
- 7 Has a conversation (5)
- 8 Condition (5)
- 9 Leading (5)
- 14 Girl's name (4)
- 16 Wriggling fish (4)
- 18 Take possession of (7)
- 20 Coming (7)
- 21 Scrap (5)
- 23 Moral principle (5)
- 24 Precipitous (5)
- 26 Go in (5)
- 28 Din (5)

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HIE REUBEN AND EDITH HECHT MUSEUM , (Haifa University). Permanent exhibition: The People of Israel in Eretz Israel / Phenicians on the Northern Coast of Israel in the Biblical Period - Illness and Healing in Ancient Times - Jerusalem and the Jewish School of Artistic Open Air. Tue.-Sun., 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri. 10-1. Sat. 10-2 ADMISSION FREE.	Museums OLD YISHUV COURT MUSEUM . Life in the Jewish community in the Old city, mid-18th century - World War II. G or H-Haim, Jewish Quarter, Old City. Sun.-Thurs. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.	TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART , Dan Karavan, Homage to Walter Benjamin. Yeheskel Streichman, Great Moments 150 works. Surrealism, Prints from the Charles and Evelyn Kramer Collection. Contemporary Greek Art Three Generations. HELEN RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART . Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Meyerhoff Art Education Center, Tel. 691955-8.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

GENERAL ASSISTANCE EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Friday, March 20
Jerusalem: Kupat Holim Leumi, 26 Mezzel, 624-6748; Batsum, Salah el-Din, 727-2315; Shufat, Shufat Road, 681-0556; Dar Alawa, Herod's Gate, 626-0556.
Tel Aviv: Shlomo Hamelech, 78 Shlomo Amichel, 524-6481; Pharmaxi, 41 Limyahu, 544-2050.
Haifa: Anana-Kfar Sava; Arim mail, Atzkehon, Kfar Sava, 767-7308.
Netanya: Neof Shaked, Ezorim Commercial Center, 835-2484.
Ramat Gan: Hadad, 53 Hovev, 826-2673.
Kiryat Aron: Krayot, 1 Nahagana, Krayot Kibbutz, 872-1665.
Tel Aviv: Clal Pharm, Beit Medekin, 6 Mezzel (near Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Shufat, 855-8472, 955-8407. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
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a.m. to midnight.
Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mail, 657-0488. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS Friday, March 20

Jerusalem: Shaare Zedek (internal); Hadassah Ein Kerem (surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology, ENT); Bikur Holim (pediatrics).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (internal, surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

Saturday, March 21
Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (internal, surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology, ENT); Bikur Holim (obstetrics); Shaare Zedek (pediatrics).
Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (internal, surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the areas around the clock.
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Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110.
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Emm - Emotional First Aid - 1201, also Jerusalem 551-0303, Tel Aviv 546-1111 (children/youth 546-0738), Rishon LeZion 555-8661/2, Haifa 867-2222, Beersheba 649-3233, Netanya 665-5110, Karmiel 988-8770, Kfar Sava 767-4555, Hadera 634-6738.

Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jerusalem 635-5558, Haifa 859-0533, Eilat 835-1977.

Thursday, March 21
Jerusalem: (day) Kupat Holim Clalit, 685-5744; Bnei Zion, 685-5744; Traus A, 3 Avigdor, 670-9660; (evening) **Emergency Pharmacy:** Har Hahotzivim, 586-9744; **Day and evening:** Bakaam, Sashah E-Din, 67-5215; Shustat, Shustat Pharmacy, 67-5218; Day Aladad, Herod's Gate, 528-552; Tel Aviv: Bnei Bass, 56 Frichman, 523-2262; Grusso, 27 Shekima, 528-4791. Tel **Nightline:** Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Meislin, Ramat Aviv, 641-3730; **Superpharm London:** Minsterline, 4 Shaal Meislin, 695-0105.
Haifa: Kupat Haim Saviv; (day) Super Pharmacy, Oshchinsky, Kfar Sava, 765-8389; (evening) Hasharon, 55 Derech Amichayim, Hod Hasharon, 740-6781. **Tel Aviv:** Hancosi, 36 Weizmann, 852-593.
Yotvata: Haberman, 5 Haberman, 351-3005.
Be'er Sheva: Super Pharmacy, Hahaton, 44 Hahaton, Kiryat Bialik, 877-8320.
Yotvata: Kupat Pharmacy, Be'er Mekeimim, 55 Mekeimim (nr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Yehuda, 855-8472, 955-8407. Open 10

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Beersheba	* 6274787	Natanya	* 9604444
Be'er Sheva	* 6551311	P. Tirov	* 9551311
Be'er Sheva	* 6783333	Petach Tikva	* 9451293
Bnei Brak	* 6332444	Rafael	* 5422333
Eilat	* 8512233	Sedona	* 8920333
Jerusalem	* 6623133	Tel Aviv	* 5460111
Karmiel	* 6985444	Yotvata	* 7598444

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Hadassah/Jerusalem Municipal Health Center for Adolescents, 6 Chila St., Kiyat Hayovel, lim. Advice by phone 02-643-3882.

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Owners okay Dodgers sale to Murdoch

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.

(Reuters) - Major League baseball owners yesterday approved the sale of the Los Angeles Dodgers, one of baseball's storied franchises, to Fox Group and media titan Rupert Murdoch.

The owners' approval came over the objections of Atlanta Braves owner Ted Turner, a longtime Murdoch rival. The purchase price was not revealed, but baseball sources put the deal at more than \$311 million.

"Major League baseball and its clubs look forward to working with our new partners at Fox," acting baseball commissioner Bud Selig told a news conference after the meeting for the 30 team owners.

Selig said the vote in favor of the sale was 27-2 with one abstention. He declined to say which teams had not voted for the sale.

"We are extremely pleased to become a more active partner with Major League baseball through today's approval of the sale of the Los Angeles Dodgers to the Fox Group," Murdoch said in a written statement. He was not at the meeting.

"Since Fox entered sports, we have been amongst the strongest believers and supporters of Major League baseball. As owners of the Dodgers, we will work hand in hand with the other owners to further assure the long-term growth and success of America's pastime," he said.

Duke — back in the Sweet 16

after a three-year absence — had its usual blowout in the first round but beat Oklahoma State by only six in the second to get to the South Regional semifinals today against Syracuse. The reintroduction of center Elton Brand into the lineup is requiring adjustments and the Blue Devils aren't quite as sharp as they had been.

Roshown McLeod blossomed in Brand's absence, but shooting guard Trajan Langdon needs to avoid the kind of slump he had before the tournament.

How did Syracuse ever get this far? The Orangemen survived Iona only because of Marius Janulus' game-winning shot, then beat New Mexico in an ugly offensive game. The Orangemen shot only 34 percent, but their zone defense helped hold injury-depleted New Mexico and the Lobos' disappearing star, Kenny Thomas, to 26 percent shooting.

Todd Burgan is the leading scorer, and Elton Thomas is an intimidating shot blocker. It sounds about as odd as the phrase "eighty-ranked Princeton," but UCLA is now the darkhorse in the NCAA Tournament. A squeaker over Miami (Fla.) saved the Bruins

from another devastating

Princeton/Tulsa episode in the first round. But against Michigan, UCLA played to its talent level, and that is awesome. What was new? Defense and half-court offense that flowed from passing, not one-on-one duels.

Baron Davis' knee is a concern, but you can't dismiss the Bruins' tournament-tried seniors and their will to win against Kentucky.

Kentucky is rolling, having beaten South Carolina State by 15 points in the first round before eliminating phenomenal Saint Louis freshman Larry Hughes from what might be his only NCAA tournament in the second, winning by 27 points.

The difference-makers should be UCLA's J.R. Henderson, Kris Johnson and Toby Bailey. The Bruins seniors have that 11-2 NCAA record and NBA talent. When they zero in on exactly what needs to be done, they are very difficult to stop.

Four questions: Can Duke sharpen its game against Syracuse before the tough tests ahead? Is Iona still agonizing over its near upset of Syracuse and are the Orangemen still counting their lucky stars? What about Baron Davis' knee,

and would the Bruins play as

well with him as they did without him? Can the Bruins' young inside reserves repeat their Michigan performance against Kentucky's Mohammed?

Looking forward to: If UCLA can somehow get past Kentucky, how about a rematch with Duke, which beat the Bruins at Cameron Indoor Stadium last month, 120-84. If the Bruins keep playing defense and passing in the half-court offense the way they did against Michigan, a game against Duke would be a lot closer.

Glimpse at the coaches: Mike Krzyzewski has been to the Final Four seven times and could surpass Dean Smith's 10 appearances if he doesn't get lured away by the NBA. (John Wooden holds the record with 12.) Syracuse's Jim Boheim used to be known as a sideline whiner, but he's changed and some people think it's because he recently married.

It's easy to criticize Steve Lavin, but at the moment the guy has a 5-1 NCAA tournament record, and the zone UCLA played against Michigan was well thought out. Kentucky Coach Tubby Smith's career started to take off after a 1994

first-round victory when he was

at Tulsa. The victim? UCLA.

How it shakes out: Duke over Syracuse, but the other game? A tough call, but if UCLA plays smart defense against Kentucky, brings its best running game and calls on every ounce of tournament fight in those three seniors ... But Duke still beats UCLA in the regional final.

(Los Angeles Times)

NCAA Tournament Glance

(All Times EST)

FIRST ROUND: Kentucky 85-78 vs. Michigan State, 8:00 p.m. Syracuse 84-66 vs. Washington, 10:00 p.m.

SECOND ROUND: Duke 84-77 vs. Princeton, 8:00 p.m. UCLA 84-77 vs. Kentucky, 10:00 p.m.

THIRD ROUND: Duke 84-77 vs. Princeton, 8:00 p.m. UCLA 84-77 vs. Kentucky, 10:00 p.m.

FOURTH ROUND: Duke 84-77 vs. Princeton, 8:00 p.m. UCLA 84-77 vs. Kentucky, 10:00 p.m.

FIFTH ROUND: Duke 84-77 vs. Princeton, 8:00 p.m. UCLA 84-77 vs. Kentucky, 10:00 p.m.

SIXTH ROUND: Duke 84-77 vs. Princeton, 8:00 p.m. UCLA 84-77 vs. Kentucky, 10:00 p.m.

SEVENTH ROUND: Duke 84-77 vs. Princeton, 8:00 p.m. UCLA 84-77 vs. Kentucky, 10:00 p.m.

'Judge righteously and plead the cause of the poor'

Every day, my faith in our fellow

beings is renewed.

The tragic death in Lebanon of Sgt. Nikolai Rappaport and the poverty in which his father and sister lived in Tel Aviv so moved one of our readers in Ohio that he sent us a check for \$2,210. He asked why some of us have more "manna" than we can eat, and others not enough.

He then quoted from Proverbs 31:9, "Open thy mouth, judge righteously and plead the cause of the poor."

Thank you very much, anonymous reader. I hope that other friends will be so moved that they will also contribute.

Here are two more thanks to friends of our Funds who are helping to entertain the kids at our Pesach Handicrafts Fair on April 14, at the Bible Lands Museum.

Thank you, Max the Magician, and thank you, Hilary Berson, who will be providing a "jumping castle."

Remember, no one ever got poor

from giving charity. Send your

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NIS 300 in loving memory of my wife, Orla - Egon Tauber, Tel Aviv.

NIS 250 Essex International Ltd. NIS 240 Jean and Alec, on your Ruby wedding - love Yael and Ray, Jim.

NIS 200 in memory of our beloved parents, whose yahrzeit fell in Adar - C. and R.R. Hala. Happy Purim - Yacobi Family.

NIS 154 Dr. Hinda King, Petah Tikva. NIS 100 in memory of my little sister, Maria, on her second yahrzeit - Rachel Dahan, Bat Yam.

NIS 50 in honor of the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Miriam and Issy Goldstein - much love, Michael, Fiona, Shiraz and Adiel, Carmiel.

NIS 18 in memory of Dorothy and Harry Berkowitz - Rivka Leshelsky, Rehovot.

NIS 200 in memory of my father, Ernst Milhauser z"l - Marguerite Milhauser, Jim, Anon, Merzack, France.

NIS 50 in honor of the 70th birthday - Shirley Landau, Valley Village, CA.

NIS 50 in honor of the 50th anniversary of Rhoda and Jack Desh - Pauline Waronker, Jm.

NIS 225 in honor of Alan Loebmann's bar mitzva - Shoshana Herzog, Northbrook, IL. In memory of Rabbi Pesach Sobel - Phyllis and Jerry Eger, Oyster Ridge, N.Y.

NIS 200 Roy Asper, Winnipeg, Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Weiss, North Hollywood, CA.

NIS 160 in honor of the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Miriam and Issy Goldstein - much love, Michael, Fiona, Shiraz and Adiel, Carmiel.

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NIS 225 in honor of Alan Loebmann's bar mitzva - Shoshana Herzog, Northbrook, IL. In memory of Rabbi Pesach Sobel - Phyllis and Jerry Eger, Oyster Ridge, N.Y.

NIS 200 Roy Asper, Winnipeg, Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Weiss, North Hollywood, CA.

NIS 160 in honor of the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Miriam and Issy Goldstein - much love, Michael, Fiona, Shiraz and Adiel, Carmiel.

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NIS 100 in honor of the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Miriam and Issy Goldstein - much love, Michael, Fiona, Shiraz and Adiel, Carmiel.

NIS 100 in honor of the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Miriam

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Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori LewisEuropean Cup
Winners' Cup

Results last night:
In London, Chelsea beat Real Betis 3-1 (1-0 on aggregate) in a European Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final at Stamford Bridge last night.
Scorers: Chelsea 3 - Frank Sinclair 36, Roberto Di Matteo 54, Gianfranco Zola 90.
Real Betis 1 - Flaviu George 21 (half-time: 1-1). Attendance: 32,300.
In Moscow, Lokomotiv Moscow beat AEK Athens 2-1 (2-1 on aggregate) in their quarter-final second leg.
Scorers: Lokomotiv 2 - Yevgeny Kharin 55, Igor Chuprunov 90.
AEK - Christos Kapitsis 68 (pen).
Half-time: 0-0.
In Stuttgart, VfB Stuttgart 2 beat Sevilla Prague 0 to win 3-1 on aggregate.
Scorers: Krasimir Balakov 10, 90.

Ashdod
to test
Hap. TA

By ORI LEWIS

National League leaders Hapoel Tel Aviv had better be careful this weekend as they host Ironi Ashdod.

Hot on their heels are Beitar Jerusalem, whose scorching run seems set to continue when they play bottom side Hapoel Ashkelon in the featured match of the weekend tomorrow afternoon.

Beitar this week tasted a bit of the flavor of international soccer as they were asked to release two of their Hungarian stars, Stefan Salto and Istvan Hamar for their national side's friendly against Austria next month. It is the first time an Israeli club has been placed in such a predicament, but Beitar will allow the players to go. The club feels confident enough that with its immense resources of talent it won't miss the Hungarian duo too much.

Hapoel Tel Aviv will be called upon to deliver their best - recently, it's been more than just a single-goal win - as they face Ashdod.

The Ashdodis have been known to cause surprises, but the cautious, strong Hapoel defense should be equal to the challenge and the status quo at the top should be maintained.

This weekend's National League fixtures (all matches kick off tomorrow at 16:00 unless stated):
Beitar Yehuda v. Hapoel Kfar Sava, Hadkra, Quarter: Maccabi Haifa v. Hapoel Be'er Sheva, Kiryat Eliezer: Hapoel Jerusalem v. Maccabi Petach Tikva, Teddy Stadium 15:00; Hapoel Tel Aviv v. Ironi Ashdod, Bloomfield; Maccabi Herzliya v. Maccabi Tel Aviv, Herzliya 16:30; Hapoel Ashkelon v. Beitar Jerusalem, Ashkelon 17:15; Hapoel Petach Tikva v. Hapoel Haifa, Petach Tikva; Hapoel Beersheva v. Ironi Rishon LeZion, Beersheva.

Charlotte ends Utah's 11-game win streak

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) — Utah's 11-game winning streak ended Wednesday night when Glen Rice scored 26 points and the Charlotte Hornets roughed up Karl Malone and the Jazz in an 111-85 victory.

Charlotte made a season-high 61 percent from the field, including 11-for-15 by Rice, who was battling the lingering effects of the flu.

The Hornets won for the 12th time in 13 games by holding the Jazz to 37-percent shooting, more than 11 percent below their league-leading average.

Malone missed six of his first seven shots, got into foul trouble and then got scratched across the eyes when David Wesley tried to block a shot late in the second quarter. Malone, who played the second half with noticeable swelling and redness around both eyes, finished with 17 points on 6-for-15 shooting.

Utah lost forward Antoine Carr and coach Jerry Sloan in the second

quarter. Carr limped off with a strained right hamstring with 1:14 left and did not return. Sloan was ejected after he came onto the court to argue with the officials after Malone's injury.

Heat 94, Grizzlies 91
In Miami, Alonzo Mourning scored 26 points and Dan Majerle scored four points in the final 70 seconds as Miami beat Vancouver.

Tim Hardaway had 23 points and 11 assists for the Heat, who moved within percentage points of the Indiana Pacers for the second-best record in the Eastern Conference. Miami has won 19 of its last 24 games.

Shaheed Abdul-Rahim scored 21 points and Bryant Reeves had 20 for the Grizzlies, who have lost five straight and 13 of their last 14.

In Auburn Hills, Michigan, Allen Iverson scored a season-high 38 points and former Pistons Theo Ratliff added 18 points and 10 rebounds to help the Philadelphia

76ers defeat Detroit.
The Sixers overcame 31 points and nine rebounds from Grant Hill to win for the fourth time in five games. Another former Pistons, Aaron McKie, had 12 points, eight rebounds and eight assists for Philadelphia.

Joe Dumars scored 18 points for Detroit, which rallied after trailing by 18 points in the first half.

Spurs 92, Timberwolves 76
In Minneapolis, Tim Duncan had 20 points and 11 rebounds and the San Antonio Spurs held the Minnesota Timberwolves to a season-low point total.

Avery Johnson scored 22 points for San Antonio, which has won nine of its last 12 games. David Robinson finished with 15 points after entering the fourth quarter 0-of-9 from the field.

Robinson didn't connect on his first field goal until he hit a short jumper with 10:45 remaining. He scored 12 points in the final quarter

and finished the game 3-of-12 from the field.

Kevin Garnett had 16 points and 10 rebounds for Minnesota, but had only two points in the second half.

SuperSonics 99, Clippers 80
In Seattle, Dale Ellis matched his season high with 23 points as the Seattle SuperSonics became the NBA's first 50-game winner this season.

Ellis scored five points in a 14-0 run that gave the Sonics (50-15) a 91-75 lead with six minutes remaining.

Seattle swept the four-game season series from the Clippers and moved two games ahead of the Utah Jazz in the race for the best record in the Western Conference.

Jerome Kersey of the Sonics and LaMond Murray of the Clippers were ejected with 1:59 left in the third quarter. It started as a shoving match and Murray threw two punches before the players were restrained.

Lakers 99, Suns 93
In Inglewood, California, Shaquille O'Neal scored 33 points and grabbed a season-high 22 rebounds as the Los Angeles Lakers held off the Phoenix Suns for their seventh win in eight games.
The Lakers remained four games behind the Pacific Division-leading Seattle SuperSonics with 17 games left in the regular season. The Suns, who had their five-game winning streak snapped, trail the Lakers by 2 1/2 games.
Robert Horry had 18 points and 10 rebounds for Los Angeles.
Antonio McDyess led the Suns with 20 points and seven rebounds, but was held scoreless in the fourth quarter.

EASTERN CONFERENCE					WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division					Midwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	46	21	.687	—	Chicago	48	17	.738	—
New York	34	29	.539	12	Indiana	45	21	.682	3 1/2
Washington	31	32	.492	15 1/2	Minnesota	34	31	.523	14
Orlando	34	32	.515	10 1/2	Nets	33	33	.500	15 1/2
Boston	33	33	.500	12	Dallas	15	51	.227	33 1/2
Philadelphia	29	36	.443	16 1/2	Denver	9	59	.133	41
Charlotte	25	40	.385	20	Pacific Division				
Central Division					Seattle	50	15	.769	—
Chicago	48	17	.742	—	LA Lakers	46	19	.706	4
Indiana	45	21	.682	3 1/2	Phoenix	44	22	.667	8 1/2
Cleveland	42	24	.636	7	Portland	38	28	.573	14 1/2
Atlanta	39	27	.591	10	Sacramento	26	41	.388	25
Cleveland	33	33	.500	13 1/2	LA Clippers	15	51	.227	33 1/2
Detroit	30	36	.455	17	Golden State	5	51	.098	38 1/2
Memphis	29	36	.443	18 1/2	NBA playoff berth				
Pittsburgh	24	41	.364	22 1/2					

United shares plummet as team crashes out of Europe

By ROBERT MILLWARD

LONDON (AP) — The goal that knocked Manchester United out of the Champions Cup had a huge knock-on effect yesterday.

David Trezeguet's powerful strike did more than shake the back of the Old Trafford net. It knocked £26 million off Manchester United's stock market value and left English soccer fans questioning just how great Alex Ferguson's team really is.

It's 30 years since United's lone triumph in the Champions Cup under Matt Busby and this was supposed to be the Reds' year again.

United was expected to beat Monaco but wound up with only a 1-1 draw to go out on the away goals rule having drawn 0-0 two weeks ago.

With Ferguson's injury-ravaged team looking over their shoulders at second place Arsenal in the Premier League, there's even a chance that United could now wind up without a trophy this season.

The Reds, 11 points clear at the beginning of March, still lead the standings by six, but Arsenal have three games in hand and are in winning form. United's inability to beat Monaco in the Champions Cup on Wednesday followed a home loss to the Gunners in the league.

To make things worse for Ferguson, he has a mounting injury crisis with key players such as Ryan Giggs, Peter Schmeichel, Roy Keane, brothers Gary and Phillip Neville and now Paul Scholes unavailable.

And owner Martin Edwards admits it may be too late in the season to replace them.

"I think the difficulty is when you leave it this late in the season, the sort of players you are looking for are all playing for top clubs," the



DOUBT BATTLE — Manchester United's Nicky Butt (left) avoids Monaco's John Collins as he passes the ball in the match at Old Trafford on Wednesday night.

United chairman said.
"Very often those clubs are looking for championships and aren't going to sell players to you at this stage."
"They are probably fighting some

sort of battle themselves to finish in a high position or win their league so it's much easier said than done."
Edwards, whose club threw away some £4 million in lost TV revenue by going out of the Champions

Cup, wasn't blaming Ferguson or the players who failed to beat Monaco.
"I thought we had a good result in the away leg against Monaco but I suppose all the injuries and every-

thing else caught up with us," he said.
"We have missed Roy Keane all season but even without him we were playing reasonably well."
"Gary Pallister is a loss, Giggs is

Inzaghi hat trick puts Juve into semis,
Dortmund outlast Bayern

LONDON (AP) — Three goals by Filippo Inzaghi powered last season's runner-up Juventus into the semifinal of the Champions Cup on Wednesday in a 4-1 win over Dynamo Kiev.
La Juve, who only scrambled into the quarterfinal as group runners up behind Manchester United, made it to the semifinal for the third season in a row after being held 1-1 in Turin by the Ukraine team.

Alessandro Del Piero added a fourth for Juventus in a one-sided game before 100,000 stunned Kiev supporters and the Italian giants, who won the trophy two seasons ago, chase a place in the final for the third season in a row.

The Italian league leaders were joined by defending titlist Borussia Dortmund, Monaco and Real Madrid but not Manchester United.

A goal by Swiss striker Stéphane Chapuisat in extra time gave titleholder Borussia Dortmund a 1-0 victory over Bayer Leverkusen to advance 4-1 overall.

The goal in the 106th minute was the only one either team scored over the two all-German quarterfinal legs. The first leg in Munich ended in a 0-0 draw and Borussia squeezed through 1-0 on aggregate.

Alex Ferguson's United were held 1-

1 by Monaco at Old Trafford after falling behind early to a strike by David Trezeguet and went out on the away goals rule after a 0-0 draw in Monaco.

Norwegian striker Ole Gunnar Solskjaer hit back with a 53rd minute strike for the Reds who were missing Danish goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel and talented Welsh forward Ryan Giggs. But Monaco held on for a deserved place in the last four.

Real Madrid, six-time Champions Cup winners, scored a 3-0 victory over Bayer Leverkusen to advance 4-1 overall.

Goals by French international Christian Karembeu, Fernando Morientes and Fernando Hierro gave the Spanish titlist a comfortable victory and made up for the fact that it is seven points adrift of Barcelona in the domestic title race.

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

The Derby came back to Yad Eliahu last night, but in the end the State Cup semifinal match-up between National League leaders Maccabi Tel Aviv and Second Division Hapoel Tel Aviv proved not quite up to great derbies past as Maccabi routed Hapoel, 93-81, in a game that wasn't even that close most of the way.

The victory earned Maccabi a State Cup final match-up against Hapoel Galil Elyon, who beat Hapoel Holon 96-85 in the opener of the doubleheader behind Alon Stein's 23 points, including five three-pointers, and Gur Shelef's 22.

Only for a few moments did the match-up between Hapoel and Maccabi resemble anything like a real contest, or those classic old games between the crosstown rivals and the likes of Mike Largee, Barry Leibowitz, Moti Aroesti or Kevin Magee.

Maccabi, Galil reach
basketball's State Cup final

Sure, Hapoel took an early 3-0 advantage, but two early three-pointers by Oded Katash (34 points) set the stage for a 13-2 run which carried the blue and yellow to a 13-5 advantage.

Still, to Hapoel's credit, they showed some grit. Led by speedster point guard Curtis McKents, who led his team with 22 points, they got back into the game and trailed just 17-14 with just over 12 minutes to play. But when center Shimon Amaleem went to the bench to rest his injured ankle at that point, Maccabi reeled off an 18-2 run that left the boys in red gasping for air and Maccabi on easy street.

Everyone had a hand in the attack for Maccabi, from Doron Sheffer (16), who hardly missed a shot all night, to Borko Radovic, subbing for the injured Randy White. Constantin Popa took passes from Katash for dunks over Hapoel's non-existent inside defense, and his basket made it 37-20. Only then did Hapoel's Jonathan Roberts stop

turning the ball over to key it late in the game, sending them into the locker room with a reasonable 43-34 disadvantage to overcome.

Two straight baskets by Roberts immediately after the second half tipoff made it look like there might be an upset in the works or at least some competition, as Hapoel cut the lead to 43-39. But then it was off to the races again for Maccabi as Katash led an incredible 29-3 run marked by numerous fast-breaks that opened a 68-41 advantage and put the game out of Hapoel's reach.

When they suddenly remembered to play some defense, Hapoel at least made it respectable, as McKents — completely shut off in the beginning of the second half by Sheffer — got back on track.

Ori Lahav regained his three-point touch, but the spurt came too late to make much more than cosmetic difference, as Maccabi eased to the 98-81 triumph, and what should be an interesting matchup against David Blatt's Galil Elyon team.

Middlesbrough agree
fee for Gascoigne

LONDON (Reuters) — English first division club Middlesbrough yesterday agreed a £3 million transfer fee for Glasgow Rangers' England midfielder Paul Gascoigne.

"We have agreed a fee with Rangers and are close to a deal with Gazza (Gascoigne)," said Middlesbrough manager Bryan Robson.

"Rangers gave me permission to speak to Gazza and it is now a question of agreeing personal terms. If personal terms are agreed, he will come down for a medical."

That could be a stumbling block to the deal, with the 30-year-old cur-

rently sidelined with an ankle injury that has kept him out for eight weeks.

Gascoigne was on Monday left out of England's squad for the friendly against Switzerland next week and told to get fit and start playing regular football by national coach Glenn Hoddle.

He has been reassured by Hoddle that a move down to the first division will not harm his England chances. Gascoigne's advisor Mel Stein earlier yesterday said the former Newcastle, Tottenham and Lazio star was still talking to the premier league's bottom club Crystal Palace.

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